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Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Monday
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Sub-Saharan Africa

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Forum on Science and Technology Held in Maputo

Mozambican President Opens Forum

MB2207125494 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] At the Fourth Congress Hall in Maputo today, President Joaquim Chissano presided over the opening session of the Second Presidential Forum on the Management of Science and Technology. President Chissano, the current chairman of the forum, is replacing Botswana President Quett Masire.

Speaking at the opening session, President Chissano said that if we fail to create a sustainable policy on science and technology in our countries, it will be very difficult to overcome the problems of underdevelopment. He said that any country's social progress depends on the development of science and technology.

Referring to Mozambique, President Chissano said our country is ready to draw up a government policy on scientific and technological development. President Chissano said one of the objectives of the forum is to inaugurate the African Foundation for Investigation and Development. He said Mozambique and other countries attending the meeting are already members of this foundation.

The opening speech was followed by the presentation of a report on the redefinition of priorities in Africa for the 1990 decade by Professor Thomas Odiambo. The report stresses that the state must create [words indistinct] African entrepreneurs, enabling them to resolve development problems facing the African continent.

Further Details on Conference

MB2207125594 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1012 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Maputo July 22 SAPA—African countries must put more emphasis on the development of science and technology if the continent is to fully exploit its abundant natural resources for the benefit of its people, Botswana's President Sir Ketumile Masire told seven other heads-of-state at a conference on Friday [22 July] in Maputo.

Zimbabwe's ZIANA news agency reports 11 southern African countries are represented at the two-day Presidential Forum on the Management of Science and Technology.

Sir Ketumile urged the leaders to promote scientific and technological research relevant to the needs of the continent. "Very little, if any, finance is allocated to scientific research and development by governments and the private sector," he said.

Africa's investment in science and technology was less than 0.4 per cent of its gross product.

"Yet the reality is that Africa now depends more on market-oriented economies. There is a need for appropriate mechanisms to transfer science research results into production processes."

Heads-of-state at the conference are Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe, Malawian President Bakili Muluzi, Swazi King Mswati III, Namibian President Sam Nujoma, Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano, Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni and South African President Nelson Mandela.

Angola is represented by prime minister Mr Marcelino Morco. Senior officials are representing Zambia and Tanzania. Cabinet ministers and scientists are also attending.

The meeting is a follow-up to one held in Gaborone, Botswana last October at which heads-of-state agreed to form an African Foundation for Research and Development (Afrand) to co-ordinate all activities related to science and technology.

Sir Ketumile handed over chairmanship of Afrand to Mr Chissano. Mr Chissano, who hosted a banquet for the leaders, said Africa's best scientists were currently working abroad for various political and economic reasons which had to be urgently addressed.

He said the World Bank estimated 100,000 African scientists were working abroad, equal to the number of foreign scientists working in Africa.

On the second day of the conference on Saturday delegates will consider expanding Afrand to include the entire continent and to open membership to private-sector organisations. They will also consider government funding for the foundation.

Mandela on Resource Management

MB2207142194 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1137 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Maputo July 22 SAPA—South Africa's research and development capabilities represented a major force for positive change in Africa, President Nelson Mandela said on Friday [22 July]. He was addressing the second presidential forum for science-led development in Africa in Maputo.

A number of African presidents were present at the gathering, among them Zaire President Mobutu Sese Seko, President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique and King Mswati of Swaziland.

Mr Mandela said in specific areas of technology like deep-level mining, liquid fuels from coal, aspects of beneficiation, water reclamation, diamond mining and synthetic diamonds, "South Africa has acquired the highest world standards."

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"Because of apartheid South Africa and its scientific and technological community were not able to co-operate with fellow Africans who were grappling with these problems. Rather, its resources were used to destabilise the region. Today, we are building contacts based on co-operation in the field of science and technology, in the same way that we are joining the world community of free nations," he said.

Mr Mandela said South Africa's accomplishments were punctuated by "the shameful footnote that these developments had, by (and) large, not been to the benefit of the vast majority of our population." He listed illiteracy, a poor standard of living and an appalling infant mortality rate. He said democratic South Africa started off "with a relatively sound research and development infrastructure inherited from the old order". He said the democratic forces, trade unions and other mass organisations of civil society had already begun a "thorough and comprehensive review" of South Africa's research bodies.

He said the government's Reconstruction and Development Programme was the centre of macro policy planning. The challenge could be summed up in "how to utilise these resources in order to eradicate the gross social disparities of the past", he said.

He said two requirements were critical to Africa's economic emancipation. These were the recognition of basic human rights and responsible management of natural resources. It was important that individuals had the freedom to pursue research to their own benefit and to the benefit of their country.

Planning had to take into account the needs of the country, especially those disadvantaged by apartheid. A partnership between government, the private sector and communities was important.

He said there was scope for African and regional co-operation in agriculture, geology, meteorology and other areas. He said South Africa was giving consideration to its involvement in a variety of conventions and organisations, including conventions resulting from the 1992 Rio Summit on Environment and Development.

Africa had to attract back its best brains. "We must create opportunities and the environment in which they will want to contribute to science-led development," Mr Mandela said.

Mandela Refuses To Sign Charter

*MB2207130694 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1131 GMT 22 Jul 94*

[Text] Maputo July 22 SAPA—President Nelson Mandela caused a stir at a gathering of African leaders in

Maputo on Friday [22 July] when he refused to follow suite and sign a science charter. Mr Mandela, after delivering his speech, said he would not be able to sign the charter for the African Foundation for Development and Research.

Mr Mandela said he would be happy to sign the charter "in due course", after he had consulted scientists back home. He said a new breed of scientists was coming into its own after having being excluded, and he did not want to prejudice them by any action.

"I have not had the opportunity to study it (the charter) and I haven't even had the opportunity to consult with Arts, Culture, Technology and Science Minister Ben Ngubane.

"Even if I had read the charter and had consulted him, I would not be ready to sign the charter today. It is merely a question of procedure."

Other presidents like Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe and Botswana's Quett Masire had already signed.

Malawian President Bakili Muluzi said he was signing even though he had not read the charter. Mr Muluzi said people believed the Bible but had not read it.

However, when it came to Mr Mandela's turn, he insisted he could not sign.

"I would like them (South Africa's new scientists) to put their concerns and fears. I wouldn't want them being restricted by what I am doing at this forum," he said.

Presidential Forum Concludes

*MB2207164694 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network
in Portuguese 1400 GMT 22 Jul 94*

[Text] The Second Presidential Forum on the Management of Science and Technology in Africa, which ended in Maputo this afternoon, concluded that it was necessary to find ways to stimulate African intellectuals and scientists on the African continent, as well as those outside the continent. The final communique also says that it is necessary to find mechanisms to mobilize these technicians to participate in the development of the African continent. Former Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere read the final communique and appealed to the international community to assist the Rwandan people. The presidents of Congo, Malawi, Namibia, and Zaire, who attended the forum, have already left Maputo for their countries.

Rwanda

French Source: Armed Forces Preparing To Resume War

LD2307162294 Paris France-2 Teletext in French 1518 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Text] The former Rwandan Armed Forces, which were defeated by the Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF], are reported to be reforming and to be getting ready to resume the war.

Six thousand soldiers of the former Rwandan Armed Forces are reported to have gathered in formed units north of Goma, Zaire, according to a French military source quoted by LE MONDE.

For the Quai d'Orsay [French Foreign Ministry], the victory of the RPF could well be "the first round in Rwanda" only, since the resumption of the war between the RPF and the Rwandan Armed Forces is foreseen.

Bizimungu Concedes Extremists Threaten Government

MM2507090494 London FINANCIAL TIMES in English 25 Jul 94 p 3

[Report on interview with President Pasteur Bizimungu by Leslie Crawford; place and date not given]

[Text] It is not often that a president is charged with the task of reinventing, as well as rebuilding, a nation. Such is the challenge facing Mr Pasteur Bizimungu, Rwanda's new president.

Mr Bizimungu is taking over a country with half its people in exile, and a history of ethnic conflict which reached its chilling apotheosis in the genocide of the minority Tutsi ethnic group by the majority Hutus in April. He believes the only way Hutu and Tutsi may live together again is by erasing the ethnic distinctions which divided them in the past.

"Our nation is in pieces," Mr Bizimungu said at the weekend. "We must teach new values to the population, based on respect for universal rights."

Mr Bizimungu must try to govern with no civil service, electricity, running water or telecommunications. The only institution functioning at present is the army of the rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF], which installed Mr Bizimungu as president last Tuesday.

Yet he insists he will not be a mere civilian figurehead for a military regime. "I joined the RPF when it launched its struggle in 1990," he says. "I was their spokesman in Brussels and I led the peace negotiations with the former government."

The Tutsi-led RPF has been careful to name Hutus such as Mr Bizimungu to prominent positions in the new government, and to include moderate political parties in

the cabinet. It even invited two members of the former ruling party to join, but they declined.

Real power, however, is expected to remain in the hands of Gen Paul Kagame, the military commander who formed an army of Tutsi exiles in 1990 to fight the Hutu dictatorship of Gen Juvenal Habyarimana. Gen Kagame has taken the posts of defence minister and vice-president.

Mr Bizimungu will not say how long the RPF-installed government intends to remain in power. The government has hundreds of thousands of displaced people to resettle. They must be housed where they feel safe. The survivors of Tutsi massacres may be reluctant to return to their former villages. Hutus who have fled into exile must be persuaded to return. The government must ensure security throughout the country. It may be a generation before Hutu and Tutsi can live together again.

Mr Bizimungu says his first priority is to persuade millions of Hutus who have fled Rwanda to return. That task may be made more difficult by the new government's intention to bring the authors of the Tutsi genocide to justice. "Impunity will not be a condition for reconciliation," he says. "Those who have killed must face justice."

But with few magistrates and a non-existent judiciary the new president admits that the task of bringing suspects to trial is beyond Rwanda's capabilities at present.

Mr Bizimungu, a 44-year-old former banker, has moved into the former dictator's residence. As if he needed a reminder of Rwanda's recent bloody past, the wreck of the presidential aircraft, which was shot down on April 6 by unknown saboteurs, can still be found in the grounds of the presidential mansion. The assassination was used by Hutu extremists as a pretext to launch their plan to exterminate the Tutsi population and the moderate Hutu leadership.

Mr Bizimungu concedes the extremists, now in Zaire, still pose a threat to the new government. In the absence of an extradition treaty with Zaire, the remnants of the Hutu army could yet regroup and restart the war. The new government in Rwanda is seeking the co-operation of foreign governments to bring the leaders of the former government and army to justice, and Mr Bizimungu hopes to meet President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire this week to discuss the issue.

Leaves for Mauritius To Meet Mobutu

AB2507113094 Paris AFP in English 1054 GMT 25 Jul 94

[Excerpts] Kigali, 25 Jul (AFP)—Rwanda's new president, Pasteur Bizimungu left Kigali on Monday [25 July] to meet Zairian leader Mobutu Sese Seko on the Rwandan refugee crisis and the disarmament of government troops who have fled the country.

"We understand that the Zairian authorities have placed obstacles to the return of refugees and we think it is in the interest of security of both countries that the problem is solved," Bizimungu told reporters just before he took off in a private aircraft at Kigali Airport. [passage omitted]

"We also want that the military who sought refugee in Zaire be disarmed and light arms be returned to Rwanda, helicopters, the armoury - in general, all Rwanda property," Bizimungu, a Hutu, said Monday. He added that his government would ask Zaire to arrest Hutu militias held responsible for slaughtering the Tutsi minority after president Juvenal Habyarimana was killed in a suspected rocket attack on his plane on 6 April. "We are going to request the Zairian authorities to arrest those who have been involved in genocide and other massacres," the president said, adding that those responsible had to be brought to trial in the interests of the Tutsis and of humanity.

The Rwandan leader was due to meet Marshal Mobutu on the Indian Ocean island of Mauritius, where the Zairian president is on vacation for a few days. Bizimungu is accompanied by Home Affairs Minister, Seth Sendashonga. He indicated that he also plans to visit neighbouring Tanzania, Burundi, Uganda and Kenya to discuss problems facing his new administration. [passage omitted]

New Foreign Minister on Return of Refugees

LD2207210394 Paris France-2 Television Network in French 1800 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Interview with Foreign Minister Jean-Marie Vianney Ndagijimana by unidentified correspondent in Brussels—live]

[Text] [Correspondent] Until now, Foreign Minister, you were Rwandan ambassador in France. The whole international community is waiting for you to guarantee that the refugees can return to Rwanda in all security.

[Ndagijimana] Good evening. Indeed, the Rwandan Government has committed itself to organizing the return to the country as soon as possible of all our compatriots who have fled to neighboring countries, in particular those millions of Rwandans dying of all sorts of diseases in the camps in Zaire.

I would like to tell you that a public information campaign will be undertaken along several lines. First, we plan to set up the means to inform the Rwandan population, and in particular the refugees, about the real causes of the Rwandan tragedy, because, as you know, there are forces—agents of the former regime, militias, and the infamous Radio des Mille Collines—which are calling on the population to flee the country. They are using lies and manipulation, and this has alas been very successful until now. We now see that this policy of exclusion and lies has persuaded millions of Rwandans to flee the country.

[Correspondent] Foreign Minister, a terrible tragedy is being played out on the borders of your country. It is quite clear that if you start apportioning blame here and there, then the tragedy might continue. You did not answer my question, however: do you commit yourselves to ensuring the safe return of refugees to Rwanda?

[Ndagijimana] This is what I was trying to tell you when I was speaking about our information campaign. We cannot do this without explaining to the Rwandan people why these people must come back.

Concrete measures must also be taken: the new government must very quickly set up security forces which can reassure the population, in other words security forces which can reflect the national balance. The government must also very quickly establish the necessary contacts with neighboring governments and with international aid organizations to examine together the ways and means of facilitating the repatriation of our compatriots.

[Correspondent] Do you accept that French or UN soldiers should take part in the repatriation operation by entering Rwandan territory, or do you reject that?

[Ndagijimana] We accept that all those with good will, including those soldiers sent by the international community, should take part in the organization of this repatriation.

[Correspondent] Without exception? This could include French soldiers and possibly American soldiers?

[Ndagijimana] I think that this in any case has to be negotiated with the current Rwandan Government, in order for this operation to take place in the best possible conditions. This is what we want.

[Correspondent] It is said that tracts have circulated in the refugee camps, saying that only the illiterate would be allowed home, that you did not want a certain category of the population, and that this kind of ethnic cleansing would continue to operate.

[Ndagijimana] You talk about these tracts, and do you really believe them? Do you think that a leader could really speak of excluding all those who can read and write from this country? It's impossible. This is pure manipulation, organized by those very people who have always said that the new government wanted to exclude one of the ethnic groups from this country. This is not true. This tract is a forgery made by those very people responsible for the massacres, by those who have provoked the flight of the population, the agents of the MRND [National Revolutionary Movement for Development], the agents of the former government.

[Correspondent] Thank you, Foreign Minister.

Government, UN Team Agree on Aid Coordination

EA2307141594 Kigali Radio Rwanda in English 1900 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Excerpts] His Excellency Pasteur Bizimungu, president of Rwanda; His Excellency Vice President and Minister

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of Defense Major General Paul Kagame; and the Honorable Seth Sendashonga, minister of internal affairs and communal development; yesterday received a UN delegation. [passage omitted]

The first thing that UN requested was for the Rwandan leaders to allow them to take aid to Rwandese in Goma, via Gatuna and Kagitumba border through Gisenyi. To this the Rwandan head of state accepted. The UN also requested to use their original stores in Kigali, where they will keep aid to give to people and [words indistinct]. To this the government also accepted. UN also requested to use Radio Rwanda whenever they want to give information to Rwandan refugees, which was also accepted by our government. [passage omitted]

This was done in Kigali on 22d July, and was signed by Seth Sendashonga, the honorable minister of internal affairs and communal development.

UN Troops To Be Deployed in Safe Zone

AB2207143094 Paris AFP in English 1420 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Goma, Zaire, July 22 (AFP)—UN troops will take up positions in the French-declared "safe zone" in southwestern Rwanda next week, their commander General Romeo Dallaire said here Friday [22 July].

"We are moving troops next week in the security zone," Dallaire said. The Canadian general, head of the UN Assistance Mission in Rwanda (UNAMIR), was visiting Goma in neighbouring Zaire for a meeting with the head of the French-led Operation Turquoise, General Jean-Claude Lafourcade.

The two meet every few days to prepare for the replacement of French soldiers by the multilateral force, he said.

The French mission, launched to protect people from ethnic massacres in Rwanda, was approved by the United Nations last month on condition that it stuck to its humanitarian mission and began withdrawal by the end of July. It is due to complete the pullout by August 22.

Dallaire said UN troops had already visited all the lines between the victorious Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) and the French, and sent reconnaissance teams to the west. They are also operating in eastern Rwanda "to establish the minimum security requested."

The aim of the UN mission is to "establish a secure environment, to be able to protect the people back home, so they can get the humanitarian support they need," he added.

Asked about the possible deployment of US soldiers, Dallaire said he did not know if they would come to Rwanda itself: "It depends on their task."

Prime Minister Meets With French Delegation

EA2307135294 Kigali Radio Rwanda in French 1815 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Faustin Twagiramungu, the prime minister of the national unity government, yesterday received a French

Government delegation consisting of Mr. Bertran Dufourcq, secretary general of the Quai d'Orsay; Mrs. (Boisineau), ambassador at the Quai d'Orsay; General Germanos, deputy commander for operations with the French Army; Colonel (Klein), executive assistant; and a telecommunications technician.

The Rwandan prime minister and the French delegation mainly discussed Operation Turquoise. The prime minister told our colleague (Emmanuel Mungunga) that he had informed the French delegation that, during the recent first cabinet meeting, a commission had been appointed and assigned to go into the French-controlled security zone and to Goma, Zaire, to announce to Rwandans that they should not be afraid, and should return to their country. To this, the French delegation replied that the Rwandan Government would have to request authorization from France to enter what is currently called the security zone. Prime Minister Twagiramungu answered this by saying that it was difficult for him to understand how a legitimate and independent government could ask for authorization from a third party to enter its own territory. He stated that he did not believe that the Rwandan people trusted the French more than they did the Rwandans. The prime minister then told the French delegation that several people had already started leaving the security zone for the government zone.

After the meeting, Mr. Dufourcq, secretary general of the French Foreign Ministry, told correspondents that they want their operation in Rwanda to end peacefully. He announced that France will have withdrawn its troops from Rwanda by 22 August.

Asked whether the humanitarian zone would be a hideout for killers, Dufourcq said that the soldiers and militias who enter their zone are disarmed immediately. He said that [words indistinct] those responsible for the [words indistinct] will be brought to book. Asked what France will do if UN troops did not come to replace them, he said that he hoped UN would come immediately.

Refugees Urged To Ignore Propaganda, Return Home

EA2307163594 Kigali Radio Rwanda in English 1100 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Text] Refugees and displaced persons who have returned to their homes in various parts of the country, have breathed a sigh of relief.

Already, many people are returning to Ruhengeri and Gisenyi. However, those who are still in refugee camps, especially in the eastern Zaire town of Goma are reported to be in a desperate situation due to an outbreak of cholera epidemic. Many die every day due to lack of food and medical care. To make matters worse, when these people try to return to their homes, there is a group of people who stop them by preaching propaganda,

through loudspeakers mounted on vehicles, that the RPF [Rwandan Patriotic Front] is going to finish them. These include some former leaders in MRND [Republican National Movement for Democracy and Development] and CDR [Coalition for the Defense of the Republic] militias, plus the RTLM [Radio-Television Libre Des Mille Collines] radio stooges.

Radio Rwanda reporter (Louisa Kayimbanda) talked to the people who have returned to their homes, and they told her that they were happy and safe in the RPF-controlled zones. She also talked to Dr. Jacques Bihozagara, minister for repatriation and rehabilitation, who disclosed that he was planning to go to Goma to visit the refugees and appeal to them to return home.

Zaire

Refugee Influx Stops in Goma, Continues in Bukavu

EA2207213094 Bukavu Voix du Zaire in French 1630 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Excerpts] The influx of Rwandan refugees has stopped in Goma, the capital of North Kivu Region but the influx is still continuing in Bukavu. The Rwandan refugees enter South Kivu through three routes: Ruzizi One, Ruzizi Two, and Kamanyola, not to mention other routes which cannot be monitored on the eastern shore of Lake Kivu. Other Rwandan refugees head for (Izwi) and other localities on the outskirts of Bukavu. They arrive in large numbers. Their numbers may surpass millions today. [passage omitted]. France will set up a humanitarian unit in Bujumbura, Burundi.

French Minister on 'Horrific' Situation

LD2307194694 Paris France-2 Television Network in French 1800 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Interview with French Health Minister Phillipe Douste-Blazy by Etienne Leenhardt in Goma—live]

[Excerpts] [Leenhardt] Mr. Douste-Blazy is with us live from Goma. Good evening, sir. You may be a minister, but you are first and foremost a doctor. I would like to ask you how you feel this evening after your first day in Goma.

[Doust-Blazy] This evening, Etienne Leenhardt, I am filled with horror. What I saw cannot be described, and it is horrific. It is horrific because, after three years of civil war, after three months of massacres, of genocide, when hundreds of thousands of people were slaughtered, hundreds of thousands of people are now arriving at this Zairian border, and this is horrific because there are corpses—there have been 8,000 corpses over the last 48 hours. There is cholera. Everything is taking place as if, after the genocide carried out by machetes and Kalashnikovs, these people now had to survive the genocide of cholera. This is absolutely horrific.

This is why Edouard Balladur—in agreement with Alain Juppe, Mrs. Michaux-Chevry [minister delegate for humanitarian action and human rights] and [Cooperation Minister] Mr. Roussin—has asked me to come here in order to bring equipment for water purification. There is a shortage of water here. These people have neither water, nor food, nor medicine, nor rehydration products. We have arrived here with a water treatment unit and a unit for the purification and filtering of water for 1 million people, so that they can have drinking water for a month. We have also brought medicine....

[Leenhardt, interrupting] Mr. Douste-Blazy, people say that this cholera epidemic may spread to other zones. Can you confirm this? What can be done to prevent this?

[Doust-Blazy] [passage omitted] On that cargo plane, I brought with me 20,000 flasks of Ringer's this morning, that is, a solution which can rehydrate these children especially.

Earlier on, I went up and down a road over two hours. On my way back, another 500 corpses were lying by the road. People walk and fall. This is dreadful, and I would say that the international community should show some solidarity. Only the French are here, and this is not normal. This must really be said. I would say that the humanist concept will triumph over the folly of mankind only if the international community shows some solidarity. This is why I would like to raise the alarm from here if we do not want these refugee camps to become death camps.

[Leenhardt] Thank you very much, Mr. Douste-Blazy.

7,000 Deaths Reported in 4 Days

AB2307195194 Paris AFP in English 1851 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Text] Goma, Zaire, July 23 (AFP)—The cholera epidemic hitting Rwandan refugee camps here has caused 7,000 deaths in four days, affecting six percent of all refugees, the medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres said Saturday [23 July].

"It is without doubt the worst, the most brutal epidemic in contemporary history," said Dr. Georges d'Alemagne of MSF (Doctors Without Borders).

"No improvement is expected in the next few days, as an epidemic lasts around three weeks."

Some 80,000 refugees, or six percent of the total 1.2 million, have contracted the disease and half of them could die because of their weak state. Three percent of Goma's local population of 250,000 are also affected, he said.

The lack of sanitation and clean water was the most worrying problem, with Lake Kivu brimming with bacteria, he said. Even worse, water was brought back to the camps and left to stand, where it became "a real soup of germs."

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The charity's centres were purifying water and distributing soap, to allow refugees to maintain a minimum of hygiene, he said.

On Saturday local authorities arranged for trucks with loudspeakers to weave through Goma warning of the health risks and giving advice on ways to prevent illness.

Ray Wilkinson, spokesman in Goma of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said Saturday he was disappointed by the lack of urgency shown by foreign governments about the "terribly urgent" needs of the refugees.

He said the German Government is sending 17 water purification units capable of processing 19,000 cubic metres of water per day early next week.

A spokesman for a visiting US Army team, Guy Shields, said they had not yet decided exactly what to supply but "the key point is water."

On Friday, a French aid source said at least 6,893 Rwandan refugees had been given a mass burial over the previous two days.

The refugees sheltering in and around Goma fled three months of bloody tribal conflict in Rwanda sparked by the April 6 death of president Juvenal Habyarimana, a Hutu, in a suspicious plane crash.

Up to one million people are thought to have been butchered in the conflict since April.

Border With Rwanda Reopened

AB2407141594 Paris AFP in English 1405 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Report by Joseph Gouala]

[Text] Goma, Zaire, July 24 (AFP)—One thousand refugees crossed back into Rwanda Sunday [24 July] after Zaire reopened the border between the two countries. There was no special ceremony at the reopening. Rwandan border guards said they had not been informed of the Zairian decision.

The border re-opened at 1:35 p.m. (1135 GMT) and was immediately crossed by at least 1,000 Hutu and Tutsi Rwandan refugees bound for Gisenyi on the Rwandan side of the border.

"I'm happy to be going home because I've learnt not to be frightened after the genocide," said Jean Pierre Valois, a Tutsi.

As soon as they reached the Rwandan border post the refugees were registered by soldiers of the victorious Rwandan Patriotic Front. "We are registering them because we have to determine the nature and degree of assistance each person needs," said Lieutenant Peter Karake, one of those responsible for the border post. He said more refugees were likely to return Monday as many were still unaware that the border was open.

"We are likely to be overwhelmed," Karake said and asked non-government organisations to help the Rwandan government "cope with the influx of home-comers." Most of those returning home were going to Gisenyi, Ruhengeri, Gitarama and the capital Kigali, he said.

"No refugee will be bothered," he stressed.

"We know who those chiefly responsible for the massacres in Rwanda are," Karake said, stressing that there "are 100 of them, at least 10 per prefecture in Rwanda."

Meanwhile, a French specialist in tropical and infectious diseases said that "calories and drinking water" were needed to save the Rwandan refugees still crammed into Goma from the cholera epidemic which has already killed more than 7,000 people in the past 48 hours.

Professor Marc Gentilini said: "if these two conditions are met, all the problems faced by the Rwandan refugees, including sudden death will disappear."

The charities estimate that at least 30 million litres of water and 500 tonnes of food a day are needed for the 1.2 million refugees.

Prime Minister Says Rwandan Soldiers To Be Disarmed

AB2407125494 Paris AFP in English 1105 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Report by Joseph Gouala]

[Excerpts] Goma, Zaire, July 24 (AFP)—Defeated Rwandan army troops who fled to Zaire will be rounded-up and disarmed Zaire's premier said here Sunday [24 July], pledging an immediate reopening of the border with Rwanda to enable floods of refugees to return home.

Joseph Kengo wa Dondo said that the 20,000 Rwandan soldiers in Zaire would be "confined in a camp to be disarmed." The soldiers "can be a source of insecurity with their arms and ammunition. We must achieve a situation where the degree of danger is lessened," said Kengo.

By doing so, Zairean officials hope to ensure the refugees' safety is guaranteed once they're home. Zairean border guards have been preventing Rwandans from crossing back into their homeland since Friday citing security reasons, said a Zairean military source.

Soldiers with the French-led Operation Turquoise intervention force had "collected" all weapons abandoned on the Zairean side by the retreating army, and explosive items would be disposed of Sunday, French army spokesman Colonel Didier Bolelli said. The Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) had not allowed them to clean up on the Rwandan side, he added.

Kengo denied Zaire had shut its border with Rwanda, but said: "If the obstacles to the return of Rwandan

refugees is on the Zairean side, they will be lifted this afternoon and they can go home."

"We haven't shut the border, but we will examine the obstacles stopping the refugees from going home," said Kengo, who was scheduled to meet officials from the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to discuss the refugees' return home.

Thousands of Rwandans were queueing up at the Goma crossing, waiting for permission from Zairean authorities to return home, as aid officials said the death toll from cholera in the camps around Goma reached nearly 7,000. [passage omitted]

Ray Wilkinson, spokesman for the UNHCR in Goma, earlier said the organisation had received pledges concerning the safety of returnees in talks with leaders of the new government in Kigali, and was now urging repatriation.

"They gave us assurances that all Rwandans will be welcome to come back," Wilkinson told journalists. "The situation is safe enough for the people to go back."

Appeals for International Aid

LD2507104394 Paris Radio France International in French 0630 GMT 25 Jul 94

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Prime Minister] Kengo wa Dondo was asked whether he expects any compensation from the international community for welcoming hundreds of thousands of Rwandan refugees in his territory. This is his reply:

[Begin Kengo wa Dondo recording] What compensation? Our charity is legendary. It is African. We opened our border not because we expect something in return, but because we did our African brothers a service. They live in catastrophic conditions, which you have now seen. I think the international community should also think of us. We too are in a difficult situation on both the economic and the social plan. [end recording]

Monsengwo on Political Role, Rwandan Situation

AB2207224594 Kinshasa Voix du Zaire in French 1830 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Monsignor Laurent Monsengwo Passigna has just held a news conference at the Kinshasa Interdiocesan Center. The Catholic prelate spoke about his role in the current political situation and promised to make his presence less felt. Here is a report from Okoko Issa Osu:

[Begin recording] [Osu] Before the local and international media, Msgr. Monsengwo sought to answer the accusations leveled against him by the Holy See and the entire Catholic Church regarding the country's political situation. The chairman of the High Council of the Republic-Transitional Parliament [HCR-PT] explained himself at length. He said he has decided to withdraw in

order to allow the political class to assume more responsibilities because he believes he has understood his mission which is to find a solution to the diverse ways of interpreting the provisions of the Transitional Constitution. He has made this decision in order to save the country from the horrors of civil war. His role will henceforth be limited to ensuring punctual mediation in case of major conflict.

Msgr. Monsengwo is accused of deserting his duties just at the time when a solution is about to be found to the government crisis. On this issue, Msgr. Monsengwo said he has no administrative or executive role to play in the political management of the HCR-PT. His attitude is not dictated by either the Holy See or the Episcopal Conference of Zaire. He said he acted on his own free will by accepting this political burden. The HCR-PT chairman explained the different stages leading to the election of the prime minister, starting from the Sovereign National Conference which did not have a specific legal framework, he said.

Regarding the election of the prime minister, Msgr. Monsengwo said the uncompromising attitude of the opposition leaders did not permit members to reach any consensus within the Sacred Union of the Radical Opposition [USOR]. Exclusion, refusal to hold consultations, insulting those who [words indistinct], all this weakened the USOR.

Touching on the legality of the Constitution, the HCR-PT chairman repeated that it falls within the competence of the Supreme Court.

He referred to the human tragedy at Goma created by the Rwandan rebels. In this regard, he appealed for international solidarity so that help can be given to the Rwandans. He also called on that country's leaders to do everything to obtain civil peace and national concord. Let us listen to a short extract of Msgr. Monsengwo's news conference:

[Monsengwo] I would have liked to remain silent as usual were the seriousness of the accusations not commensurate with the people's ill will, bad faith, and imposture. Our people are entitled to knowing the truth and to respect. They also have a right to truth and justice. Before anything else, it will be proper to explain that it was not by delegation of powers of the Episcopal Conference of Zaire [CEZ] or the Catholic Church that I chaired the CEZ and the HCR, but in my own private capacity, at the insistence of the people. I accepted this duty in quite an exceptional and temporary manner. It is true that in the exercise of this mission I enjoyed the comforting support of the Catholic Church and the other religious bodies, notably the Church of Christ in Zaire, the Kimbanguist Church, and the Muslim religion. Nevertheless, it was my conscience as a Christian, a bishop, and a pastor that dictated all my decisions and not pressure from the Catholic Church or any religious bodies whatsoever. [end recording]

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Opposition Demonstrates Against Monsengwo

*AB2407164394 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1230
GMT 24 Jul 94*

[Text] Controversy still rages on between the government and the opposition. The opposition yesterday organized another demonstration to demand the resignation of Laurent Monsengwo, chairman of the High Council of the Republic-Transitional Parliament. Following this demonstration in the Zairian capital, several demonstrators were arrested. The demonstrators were demanding the resignation of Laurent Monsengwo, accusing him of joining the camp of President Mobutu, considered by the Radical Opposition as the main obstacle to the democratization process in Zaire. Joseph Folingakoye, one of the leaders of the renovating forces of the Radical Opposition, explained the reason for the demonstration to Raphael Mbadinga.

[Begin Folingakoye recording] We shouted and demanded his resignation because Monsignor Monsengwo was supposed to protect the achievements of the Sovereign National Conference for which a lot of people shed their blood to bring us to this stage. He had the mission of issuing the death certificate of the Second Republic and issuing the birth certificate of the Third Republic. He has done just the contrary, issuing the death warrant of our people.

Msgr. Mosengwo has betrayed Article 78 and the whole Constitution, especially on matters of procedure. The election of prime minister was not provided for by the law. You saw that when Msgr. Mosengwo was in Brussels he issued a communique opposing the election of Mr. Kengo wa Dondo. However, when he arrived in Kinshasa, the same person was won over to support the government of Kengo wa Dondo. Therein lies the contradiction.

Towards the end of the demonstration, Mobutu's militia, summoned by Msgr. Mosengwo, arrived, beating the crowd which was demonstrating peacefully. They beat up the councillors of the Republic. Many councilors and members of the public on the side of the Republic are still in the jails of the regime, that is, in Mobutu's

political detention. It is Msgr. Mosengwo's fault and he alone will assume the responsibility and the consequences of this act. [end recording]

Bank of Zaire Governor Suspended From Post

*EA2307170194 Bukavu Voix du Zaire in French 0430
GMT 23 Jul 94*

[Text] Given the deterioration in the state of the public finances' sector and the fluctuation of Zaire's currency, and in view of the fact that the Bank of Zaire has not implemented the directives of the ministry supervising it, that is to say, the government's directives, Prime Minister Kengo wa Dondo has just suspended Mr. (Ndiang Akabul) from his position as governor of the Bank of Zaire. According to the minister of information and press and government spokesman, Mr. (Masse Gabion Nzanu), in the meantime and until an internal audit is completed, Mr. (Atoumina), the Bank of Zaire's vice governor, will be the interim governor of that institution.

Official Confers With Rebels in North Kivu

*AB2207211794 Kinshasa Voix du Zaire in French 1800
GMT 22 Jul 94*

[Text] The prodigal children may return home soon. The scene is being prepared in the North Kivu Region where a few days ago, Interim Governor Moto Mopenda held discussions with a delegation of rebels who operate in the Ruhenzori mountain range.

According to the ZAIRIAN NEWS AGENCY [AZAP], Francois Mopaya, who is the leader of the delegation and commander of operations, expressed the willingness of 700 members of this group to lay down their arms and to return home. These guerrilla fighters, who have withdrawn to the Ruhenzori Mountains since 1986, have always, according to AZAP, posed the problem of their reintegration.

Quoting an official source, AZAP also announced the return into the country of 700 Zairians who took refuge in Uganda because of repeated rebel attacks.

Eritrea**President Isaias Meets With Yemeni Minister**

EA2407152794 Asmara Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0500 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Text] President Isayas Afwerki yesterday held talks with the Yemeni minister for planning and development, Mr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani. During the meeting, Mr. 'Abd-al-Karim conveyed a message sent by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to President Isayas on the situation in Yemen.

On his arrival, Mr. 'Abd-al-Karim was received by Mr. Salih Kekiya, assistant minister for foreign affairs, and Mr. Sulayman al-Haji, head of the Middle East desk at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Mr. 'Abd-al-Karim left for his country yesterday.

Somalia**SNA Warns Against Disorder at Mogadishu Port**

EA2307205194 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Great Somali People in Somali 1700 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Text] The Somali National Alliance [SNA] higher committee for internal affairs has released a statement on the security of Mogadishu port. The statement says that, for a long time successive problems based on chaos, selfishness, and political disorientation have been rampant at the port, and have affected the Somali people and foreigners. This could no longer be tolerated, and action had to be taken to remedy the situation. The statement says that, in carrying out the command of the SNA chairman and respecting the proposals put forward by well-informed people, officials, port laborers, and others, with effect from 23 July, forces combining well-informed people and armed youth will operate in front of the port and its vicinity. An office has also been opened to attend to any complaints in the port compound and its surroundings.

The statement informs the Somali people and everyone else that no arms of any kind were allowed to be brought into the port or its vicinity. Nor should there be any obstructions, shooting, or other activities that could interrupt the work going on there. This was a warning, and whoever attempted to violate this decision would face the appropriate measures, which the Armed Forces have been ordered to carry out. The statement calls on the people, the Armed Forces, workers and the agencies that have business in the port to observe this warning. The transport and passenger vehicle drivers are warned against blocking the gates or the road passing in front of the port.

New Somaliland Minister of State Appointed

EA2207221894 Hargeysa Radio Hargeysa Voice of the Republic of Somaliland in Somali 1200 GMT 16 Jul 94

[Text] A report released today by the Republic of Somaliland Presidency says that a new minister of state for the

Council of Ministers, parliament and the Council of Elders has been appointed. The appointed minister is Ahmad Hasan Farah.

Tanzania**President Mwinyi Recognizes New Rwandan Government**

EA2207212294 Dar es Salaam Radio Tanzania Network in Swahili 1700 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Excerpts] Tanzania has announced today that it has officially recognized the new Government of Rwanda which is led by President Pasteur Bizimungu who was sworn in on 18 July. Speaking to reporters during the weekly news briefing at State House, Dar es Salaam, the president's press secretary, Patrick Shokala, said President Ali Hassan Mwinyi has said that the Government of Tanzania has now officially recognized the Government of Rwanda led by the Rwandan Patriotic Front [RPF]. President Mwinyi said the Government of Tanzania has decided to recognize the present leadership in Rwanda in keeping with the internationally accepted norm of a government's ability to manage the whole country.

President Mwinyi said the Government of Tanzania has recognized that government because it has started to show its ability to reduce instability in the country and to bring an end to the killings.

Speaking on the refugee issue, the president supported the new Rwandan Government's move to call on all refugees based in Tanzania, Zaire, and other countries to return home. The president of Tanzania called on the refugees to accept the call saying he hopes the new Government of Rwanda will guarantee the safety of the refugees in terms both of their lives and possessions.

The president also called on the international community to increase its effort in saving the lives of refugees who are dying due to lack of food and medicine. [passage omitted].

The prime minister and first Vice President Honorable John Malecela, has sent a message of congratulation to the new prime minister of the Republic of Rwanda, Mr. Faustin Twagiramungu. In his message, Honorable Malecela said that on behalf of the United Government of Tanzania and on his own behalf, he received with great joy news of the appointment of Twagiramungu to the post of the prime minister of Rwanda. He said that under the leadership of the new prime minister of Rwanda, he was sure that relations between the Governments of Rwanda and Tanzania will be maintained to the benefit of the peoples of the two countries.

Congratulates Bizimungu

EA2207190094 Dar es Salaam Radio Tanzania External Service in English 1600 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] President Ali Hassan Mwinyi has congratulated Mr. Pasteur Bizimungu for his appointment to the post

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of president of the Republic of Rwanda. In his message President Mwinyi assured President Bizimungu that during his tenure of office, the friendly relations that exist between Tanzania and Rwanda would be further strengthened. The president expressed Tanzania's hope that under the able leadership of the new president the people of Rwanda will begin a new era of peace and stability. He said it was his belief that the newly installed broad-based government and the Rwandan people will strive towards national reconciliation as the key to lasting peace in Rwanda after a traumatic past. President Mwinyi conveyed his best wishes for Rwanda's future success and the new president's well-being.

Uganda

Museveni Welcomes U.S. Assistance to Rwanda

EA2407155094 Kampala Radio Uganda Network in English 0400 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Text] President Yoweri Museveni has welcomed the American initiative of providing humanitarian assistance to Rwandan refugees threatened by disease and hunger in eastern Zaire. The president was this evening meeting the United States ambassador to Uganda, Mr.

Johnnie Carson, who briefed him on the large-scale humanitarian operation to be undertaken by the U.S. Government to assist Rwandan refugees in eastern Zaire.

Mr. Museveni assured the American envoy that the Uganda Government had no problems with the American decision to use Entebbe as a bridgehead to supply humanitarian and logistical assistance to the refugees in eastern Zaire, and then to areas inside Rwanda itself. He said that the Government of Uganda would extend every possible assistance to ensure the success of the endeavor.

Mr. Museveni expressed the hope that when the assistance is extended to areas inside Rwanda, the refugees would be encouraged to return to their homeland. He, however, stressed the importance of isolating criminals of the former government in the refugee camps who are responsible for the past killings and the present flow of refugees. He added that the clique of the former government want to link their fate with the fate of the masses of Rwanda, leading to the current fatal stampedes. [sentence as heard] The meeting was attended by the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Chris Kasigazi.

COSATU Threatens 'Unprecedented Scale' of Protests*MB2507150394 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1440 GMT 25 Jul 94*

[Text] Johannesburg July 25 SAPA—South Africa's largest trade union federation, the Congress of South African Trade Unions [COSATU], on Monday threatened protests on an unprecedented scale should the labour crisis remain unresolved. This follows an incident-free march by about 3,000 workers to the Johannesburg Stock Exchange and John Vorster Square police station in the city centre to publicise workers' demands, including the right to a "living wage", freedom to strike and picket and industrial action free from police intervention.

COSATU Witwatersrand [Wits] regional secretary Langa Zita said the march was the "first campaign of workers in the new society with the object of putting workers' demands at the top of the new South Africa's agenda". According to Mr Zita it was time employers acknowledged the "centrality" of workers' demands.

He warned employers would no longer be dealing with individual industrial disputes because organised workers planned to bring their "social weight to bear on all deadlocks".

COSATU Wits regional chairman Mr Velaphi Nkosi reiterated the union's intention to hold a regional mass stayaway on August 8 if no amicable resolution to the present collective bargaining crisis was found by the end of the month. "If our demands are not met, the action will definitely go on. This is not an empty threat," he told reporters at a Johannesburg press conference.

According to Mr Nkosi, all disputes would have to be resolved before the stayaway was called off. He said COSATU's affiliates were already mobilising and "conscientising" workers and while protests would be in the form of a one-day stayaway, further action was possible.

Although details of the campaign had yet to be finalised, action could involve consumer boycotts and "other strategies".

COSATU stressed, however, that it wished to find an amicable solution to the current crisis.

Informal talks had already been held with the PWV Economic Forum's Business Caucus, and organised business had been asked to intervene in current deadlocks.

Monday's march to the JSE took the issue further with a formal handing over of a memorandum to representatives of the Business Caucus, setting out a number of demands including workers' rights to strike and picket and that employers refrain from involving police in industrial disputes.

SA Chamber of Business and Business Caucus representative Denzil McGlashan, who accepted the memorandum, told workers their demands would be taken up

with various employer organisations. He said a response would be forthcoming by the end of the month. Mr McGlashan added business desired to work together with labour and government towards implementing the Reconstruction and Development Programme.

Labor Minister, Shilowa Interviewed on Strikes*MB2307090994 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1830 GMT 21 Jul 94*

[Interview with Labor Minister Tito Mboweni, COSATU Secretary General Sam Shilowa, President of Business South Africa Dave Brink, and labor consultant Duncan Innes by announcer Max du Preez in SABC's Johannesburg studio on the "Agenda" program—live]

[Du Preez] Good evening, gentlemen, welcome. Pick 'n Pay, Shoprite-Checkers, the Department of Justice, De Beers—all strikes post election. This can't be a coincidence. Is this a symptom of something, frustrated expectations perhaps? Mr. Minister?

[Mboweni] Certainly not. You see, almost every year, during this period there is a round of negotiations for wages and working conditions, and depending on the nature of the situation, sometimes there are disputes in various sectors or sub sectors, and sometimes agreements and resolutions. So one should expect it within the context of a society where collective bargaining is part and parcel of the life of a country. So there's nothing out of the blue, it's part and parcel of the collective bargaining system. However, what I would like to suggest in the situation is that a greater amount of energy and focus should be put by both management and unions to try the best that they can to find solutions, as best as they can.

[Du Preez] Dr. Innes, do you agree that this is a normal happening for this time of the year?

[Innes] I think this year we have seen so far more strike action than we saw last year. We've seen in fact almost more than twice as many man days lost so far than we saw in the equivalent period last year. I would think the political factor plays a part, but to me the more important issue is that we are coming out of a very severe recession which has been going on for five years. If you look at wage settlements for organized labor in 1990, they were at around 17 percent. Last year they were around 9.5 percent, and I think workers have tightened their belts along with everybody else to try and cope with the conditions of the recession; and I think that now that we're coming out of the recession workers are looking for an increase, they're looking for something ahead of inflation. I think the unfortunate problem is that business has also been hit by the recession quite severely and is now difficult for them to pay at this early stage. So I think that's probably where a lot of the friction is coming from.

[Du Preez] Mr. Shilowa, there seems to be a post-election leadership crisis in the labor movement. A lot of the

senior positions are filled by temporary people or even junior people, regional people. Is that a part of the problem that we see now?

[Shilowa] I think there has been an over-exaggeration of the leadership (?exodus) from COSATU. I think the reality of the situation is that every year, I think, as the minister has said, at this time of the day workers come together with employers, negotiate. Sometimes they reach a deadlock, sometimes they settle it.

But I think the strike that is taking place now, in my view, is one national strike by Pick 'n Pay, and because it's the first one after the elections, everybody has begun to say we're now entering a winter of discord, we're now seeing a power balance between COSATU and the ANC, or between COSATU and the new government; and I think I've taken the view that says it's nothing of the sort. The issue is, workers are saying: Obviously we have taken a lot of restraint. This year let's try and see if we cannot find a settlement.

And I think the challenge is not only to the trade union movement, it's to employers to say: What is the best way of finding a settlement which takes into account that people feed anything between five and eight mouths, that they are emerging out of a recession, and coupled with the fact that obviously you need to try and ensure growth and equity in terms of the economy.

[Du Preez] Was there a bit of a bottling up before the election because there was a request from the ANC leadership to labor to cool it until after the election? Are we feeling the effect of that now in a sense?

[Shilowa] Not necessarily. I think what was raised was in relation to the public sector workers, and I think the issue was to say: All of them, it will be in the best interest of democracy if they are back at work so that at the end of the day we're able to conduct elections.

But you see, for me the issue is this: Workers obviously have got certain expectations. You can't run away from that because I think most of them have been saying: Will democracy mean more than the right to vote every five years? It must mean economic empowerment, it must mean improvement in living conditions. And I think the effect of that is going to be felt at the shop floor, and I think we have to find a way together with business, of how do we manage that particular situation.

[Du Preez] Is that why the wage demand now this time round is much higher than inflation?

[Shilowa] They are not necessarily higher than inflation in a sense that you see, in various years when you take lower than inflation, it doesn't mean if inflation goes slightly higher, you get compensated. And I think what has to be looked into is that in terms of this year it may be slightly higher than inflation in terms of the demand, but if you take the last three to five years, what workers have been getting, I think really they are justified in saying let's do it slightly better. But I think I just want to

emphasize: We are not in a winter of discontent, we're not in a crisis situation; we're in negotiation, and I think they can be handled. As [Pick 'n Pay Chairman] Ackerman has said, we're going into mediation, and we'll resolve it.

[Du Preez] Yet, Mr. Shilowa, it does seem as if this round is more driven by the rank and file of the unions rather than leadership. Is there that phenomenon that experts tell me they see?

[Shilowa] I don't know in terms of various other strikes, but I think I would know that in terms of the Basil Reid lockout, it's not the workers that actually drove whoever else in terms of the leadership. The same in terms of SACCAWU [South African Catering, Commercial and Allied Workers Union].

I think how COSATU has always worked is that its workers work out what demands they are going to have. The shop stewards give guidance, but I think at the end of the day the shop floor must be able to deal with it. I've always argued that I think it would be wrong if the leadership was to reach agreement which they are not able to then carry [to] their own constituency, and I think what the shop stewards have been trying to do is that they want to reach a settlement which not everybody may like, but at least they're sure they will deliver their constituency into an agreement.

[Du Preez] Dave Brink, let's talk to you about the effects of all this on investor confidence and the economy in general.

[Brink] I think that one doesn't want to exaggerate the effect on investor confidence. You know, the process that's happening at the moment is a natural one, and I think it's entirely to be expected that workers are asking what's in the new South Africa for us? And it's really a question of managing that.

I think as far as foreign investment in South Africa is concerned, really we're going to get strong investment into South Africa when the foreign businessmen see the South African businesses really prospering, and doing well; and the real trick, and the responsibility for all South Africans, is that we've got to manage these aggressions and energies that are being destructively applied at the moment, and get them into constructive mode. I think that's the challenge for government, labor, and business.

[Du Preez] Can we hear what the minister has to say about the investor confidence?

[Mboweni] Well, quite clearly investor confidence is very important. Let me say, Max, that the South African economy is just about coming out of the recession. We really don't have yet concrete numbers on the table that show that, oh, it's all well done. It is coming out. And there is a sense in which we should handle this period, of course, in terms of investor confidence, ensuring that the gross domestic product does pick up with a lot of care. I

think everybody should accept that. But investors who would think that for there to be confidence means suppression, I think it's not reading the situation correctly.

It's very important that we lay the cards on the table. We are saying that here all investors must understand that as part and parcel of them coming to invest in South Africa, yes, indeed they must follow the lead of businesses in South Africa, but they must also accept that there are certain traditions which have become part and parcel of the South African labor market. Collective bargaining is one of those.

[Du Preez] Sure, but the violence we saw, and Raymond Ackerman talked about the publicity overseas, can't be good for us.

[Mboweni] The violence, most certainly is not good. It does worry us quite seriously—police dogs being let loose on workers, the breaking of property, or damage of property. All those things are not acceptable as part and parcel of the collective bargaining system. What I'm emphasizing is that workers and management come together and knock agreements. That is part and parcel of the tradition. We must continue to encourage it, we must find solutions quicker, and all investors must accept this. And if we bottle up and refuse collective bargaining, then we are going to have a big explosion which will then destroy that investor confidence.

[Du Preez] Have the police actions embarrassed the government?

[Mboweni] Embarrassed, no. They certainly concern me as labor minister. I have been worried that the police must not get involved to the extent of criminalizing a strike. You know, the intervention of the government must be to ensure that we move as quickly as possible to resolve the conflict, which is what we have done now by saying to the parties, look it seems to us that you are having certain difficulties in resolving the dispute, therefore could we suggest mediation to you? And they have agreed, that's why this afternoon I appointed Mr. Charles Nupin to proceed with mediation. That resolves the strike. Police dogs, breaking of property does not resolve the strike.

[Du Preez] Dr. Innes, certainly if higher wage demands do not go hand in hand with high productivity, we're going to be in trouble.

[Innes] True, unless we do get improvements in productivity, and I think this raises an important question. I agree absolutely with Tito when he says that we mustn't undermine collective bargaining, that's not going to work. At the same time I think what we are moving toward here is to say we need a new way of doing things and that includes free collective bargaining, but under the apartheid era there was no real development program for the people of this country. Now what we have with

the new government is a Reconstruction and Development Program which is essentially a program for the upliftment of people; and I think what we've got to start moving toward at industry level and within companies, and at the national level we've got to start working toward establishing forums where we have employers, we have the labor movement, we have other stakeholders also including the government, involved in looking at how we can build a partnership together, because we do have good development goals which we didn't have in the past. And I think what we've got to try and move toward is a situation where free collective bargaining now takes place within the context of a striving toward development on a partnership basis. And I think if we can achieve that, it's not a question of saying that unions will have to restrict their demands or anything, but it's a question of saying what are we doing about training people? What are we doing about the development of people? What's happening on affirmative action and how do wage negotiations fit into that overall policy?

[Du Preez] Mr. Brink, labor has put a lot of pressure on the government of national unity, especially with the ANC partners in there to be supportive of what labor is trying to achieve. Has the government's reaction been the correct one and what would the correct position be for government in this specific situation?

[Brink] I've seen some criticism of Mr. Mandela's so-called intervention. I should think that he behaved entirely correctly when he said you chaps have got a dispute, you must solve it, and you must solve it by peaceful negotiation, and what he said was unacceptable was bad behavior; and he really then asked management to use restraint in calling the police, and when the police are involved, he asked them to use restraint. And I think really that all of those things were absolutely appropriate for our state president to say. I don't think he has taken sides in the thing at all and my comments really apply to the ministers involvement as well.

[Du Preez] Mr. Shilowa, COSATU made the big ANC victory in the election possible. Is it pay back time? Is there undue pressure on the Jay Naidoo's and the Alec Owen's COSATU MPs?

[Shilowa] Let me put it this way. You see, what you have—you've got people in this country who have put energy into ensuring an ANC victory. The approach is not one that says pay at the expense of everybody else. I don't think everybody is saying so. They're all saying a way has to be found where there's improvement in our living conditions, for instance. I think people are right to expect that at least police behavior should change so that we don't have a situation where workers are toy-toying, singing or sitting down, that the only way of asking them to disperse would be to unleash dogs. I think they are also right to expect that at least the minister of police, without waiting for a meeting with the [word indistinct] should be able to come up and say: That type of behavior is regrettable, we don't think we must go that particular

way. And I think the other thing that workers expect is that in terms of labor legislation where there are loopholes, which all of us have agreed, either with the ANC, we must be able to do it. But I think you need to remember that in terms of the interim constitution, labor legislation has been insulated from change unilaterally, and it's going to be done using tripartite institutions like the NMC [National Manpower Commission], that's why all of us have called, together with business, that let's have the NEF [National Economic Forum]-NMC thing going on. I think the minister has indicated that he will be looking in terms of government coming together to look into how best to respond to that situation.

[Du Preez] Let's get to the minister and ask him the same question. Do you feel undue pressure from your comrades in COSATU?

[Mboweni] Most certainly not. There's no pressure.

[Du Preez] Serious?

[Mboweni] There was no pressure at all. If anything... [changes thought] I actually feel that the relationship at the political level is one which understands that we have to transform South Africa, we have to implement the RDP [Reconstruction and Development Program], and we must do so not just as bits and pieces—government here, trade union movement there. It must be part of the national project. And I think that has been interesting to see that. I need to mention that what's happening is that we must move very quickly—as quick as we can, to put in place in the country a civilized, acceptable labor relations act which removes some of the other sections of the previous labor relations act.

[Du Preez] And that's on its way, isn't it?

[Mboweni] It's on its way. We are speeding the planning process, we are moving on a fast track so that we can be in a position to put the bill as quickly as possible. Now we have to consult, of course, with business and labor, and certain processes of consultation are actually going on a fast track.

[Du Preez] Can I quickly go to you, Dr. Innes, and ask you and Mr. Brink: Is COSATU not developing into the real opposition to government?

[Innes, laughing] I don't see it that way, certainly not at the moment. I think COSATU, as was indicated earlier, has played an important role in helping to bring the ANC to power. So I don't think that at this stage they are going to now say, now we are going into opposition. I think they are looking for a new era, they are committed to the RDP, as is the ANC, to the extent that I think if the RDP delivers, I don't see any prospect for the close relationship between them being undermined at all.

[Du Preez] A word from you, Mr. Brink?

[Brink] Max, I don't know what Sam's political ambitions are [all laugh], but I think....

[Shilowa, interrupting] I'm remaining in labor [laughs].

[Brink, continues] I think that if the three parties fail to make a success out of this South African economy, we could really see a radical government come in at the next election, and it could be a labor government.

[Du Preez] Gentlemen, thank you very much. That was an interesting conversation.

Labor Minister, Fedal Issue Statement on Talks

MB2307090894 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2118 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Statement issued by Labor Minister Tito Mboweni and the Federation of South African Labor Unions, Fedal, on the SAPA PR Wire Service on 22 July]

[Text] The minister of labour, Mr Tito Mboweni, held a consultative meeting today with the Federation of South African Labour Unions, (Fedal), South Africa's third largest trade union federation representing some 260,000 members. The meeting, which was attended by senior officials from the Department of Labour and Fedal affiliates, focused on issues relating to the formulation of an active labour market policy and the particular problems experienced by workers in the respective sectors organised by Fedal.

The minister briefed the Fedal delegation on the Ministry of Labour's proposed vision to restructure and transform the Department of Labour. Fedal reacted positively to the draft proposals presented by the minister.

The Fedal affiliates also informed the minister of the problems which they experience in their respective industrial sectors. The following issues were raised for consideration by the minister:

1. Problems relating to the Industrial Court, in particular the delay experienced in having cases heard, the enormous costs incurred and the inaccessibility of the court to rank and file workers.
2. The urgency of unifying labour laws and functions.
3. The problems that might arise if training is made the responsibility of the Ministry of Education.
4. The need to reinforce the function of labour as a national competency and not have the function fragmented at provincial level.
5. Uncertainty amongst municipal workers regarding their future standing following the amalgamation of local authorities.
6. The current exclusion of academics from the Labour Relations Act, (LRA).

The minister was aware of some of the problems raised by Fedal and had already set in motion processes to address these problems as outlined in 1 to 4 above.

Regarding the uncertainty amongst municipal workers, the minister undertook to discuss the matter with the minister of constitutional affairs and local government and the Public Service Commission. On the exclusion of academics from the LRA, the minister indicated that the issue will be considered when amendments to the LRA are drafted.

During the meeting, Fedsal also expressed great concern on behalf of itself, the National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu), the Federation of Trade Independent Unions and the South African Confederation of Labour on the impression they gained from the media that the meeting between the minister and Cosatu [Congress of South African Trade Unions] had reached agreement on important issues from which Fedsal and the above federations were excluded.

The minister clarified that the meeting with Cosatu was consultative and the first of a series of bilateral meetings between the ministry and the major stakeholders. The minister further explained that the meeting with Fedsal had followed the same agenda as the meeting with Cosatu. Similar meetings are scheduled to take place with other stakeholders, such as Business South Africa and other trade union federations.

Fedsal was pleased with the spirit in which the meeting was conducted and was thankful for having the opportunity of directly expressing its views to the minister.

The minister viewed the meeting as the start of a constructive process aimed at reaching agreement on issues of concern in the labour market arena. Fedsal was invited by the minister to submit any proposals it may have on the structuring of the Department of Labour and the formulation of a labour market policy.

ANC's Ramaphosa Comments on Lack of Support for RDP

MB2407095994 Johannesburg SABC CCV Television Network in Xhosa 1700 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Text] The secretary general of the ANC, Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa, says it is still possible that the people will not trust ANC MP's [Member of Parliament] because of those who work at cross purposes to the ANC. He was speaking in Mmabatho:

[Begin Ramaphosa recording, in English] There has been overwhelming support and some of the support for the RDP [Reconstruction and Development Program] has been the lip-service type of support to the RDP. And I think as the ANC, as cadres of the movement, we should not be duped into believing that the RDP has overall complete support throughout the country. There are and there are going to be many people, organizations and institutions that are going to want to sabotage the RDP.

We have already had reports about the Development bank of South Africa producing documentation, memoranda, saying how that the RDP can be sabotaged and we

are the organization that must make sure that all those organizations, all those people and institutions who may have devious intent regarding the RDP, fail in their objectives of frustrating the RDP. We must make sure that we once again demonstrate to them that we are the ANC, and we are not going to be defeated, and we will not allow the RDP to be sabotaged by anybody. [end recording]

First Deputy President Discusses Implementing RDP

MB2507145494 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1409 GMT 25 Jul 94

[Text] Durban July 25 SAPA—First Deputy President Thabo Mbeki on Monday said the government's Reconstruction and Development Programme [RDP] was a "revolution within a revolution" and should involve all citizens. But, Mr Mbeki said, the implementation of the programme had to be seen against the backdrop of dismantling apartheid, which meant making "haste...slowly".

Addressing the 30th annual conference of the National African Federated Chamber of Commerce and Industry on the Wild Coast, he said the nature of the programme meant it should "involve and serve the people themselves, in their millions".

He said the adoption of the interim constitution and the installation of the new government were the first steps on the road to transforming South Africa into a democratic country. Implementing the Reconstruction and Development Programme was the next step.

"What the programme calls on people and our country to do is to effect a revolution within a revolution," Mr Mbeki said, adding that citizens should not approach the programme with a "business as usual" attitude. Instead, people should direct their "continued struggle" to ensure the revolutionary renewal of the country to guarantee "liberty, peace and stability" through reconstruction and development.

The deputy president said the success of the programme would be measured by the results it achieved in "restoring to their full humanity those who have been most dehumanised by the apartheid system".

Mr Mbeki said the 10-week-old government's attempts to achieve the programme should be seen against the difficulties in transforming state structures from the old order to the new. "We speak of a break with the past, of a revolution and not a mere change of government within an established order.

"You can imagine how complex the process of dismantling apartheid is...we must...make haste slowly," he said, outlining the need for transparent government.

Mr Mbeki urged the introduction of schemes to give black entrepreneurs access to capital, saying attractive and creative ways should be sought to leverage money

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from the private sector. He said the international community was ready to assist black business in joining the mainstream economy but he questioned how ready and organised this group was to enhance that help.

"We believe that it is also important that serious and appropriate measures should be taken properly to prepare black business people to establish and manage successful business.

"We cannot afford to have a black business development programme whose distinguishing feature is a succession of failures and bankruptcies," Mr Mbeki said.

Further on DBSA 'Conspiracy' To Undermine RDP

MB2207175794 Johannesburg NEW NATION in English 22 Jul 94 p 3

[Text] The Development Bank of South Africa (DBSA) has entangled itself in a web of contradictions which have deepened suspicions of its involvement in a conspiracy to undermine the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP).

And there were claims from staff at the bank this week that someone at the DBSA had allegedly "fiddled with tape recordings of the May audit committee meeting" at which plans were proposed to sabotage the RDP.

These contradictory explanations from the DBSA have raise questions about who is telling the truth. DBSA staff who spoke to NEW NATION this week are convinced that the bank is in the process of attempting a massive cover-up.

Following reports in the past few weeks alleging that former DBSA board member Desmond Krogh had advised the bank to work towards making the RDP fail, the development institution's acting chief executive, Nick Christodoulou, moved belatedly this week to deny the claims.

He told DBSA staff at a briefing this week: "...after careful examination of the tapes of the May audit committee meeting it is clear that Dr Krogh did not make the statements he was alleged to have made."

Christodoulou's denial contradicts statements made by other senior DBSA officials, including Krogh, who was quoted as confirming that he might have made the statements attributed to him but added that he was misunderstood.

"I probably said so verbatim. But I was misunderstood," Krogh was reported as saying.

NEW NATION this week tracked down a source who was present at the May audit Committee meeting who corroborated allegations that Krogh had made the statements.

This is the first time that a source who was part of the meeting has commented on the accuracy of claims that

top DBSA officials were committed to trying to wreck the RDP. The allegations were first made in a report compiled by a group of concerned professionals at the DBSA. The group also questioned Christodoulou's denials, which they say come almost two weeks after the first allegations against Krogh were published.

They point that the denials are also inconsistent with statements made by DBSA general manager Deon Richter, who said at the time that the bank was embarrassed by Krogh's views.

Krogh in the meantime has alleged that he had been sacrificed by the bank to limit the damage that the sabotage allegations could cause to the DBSA's image.

According to the report compiled by the group of senior officials at the bank, Krogh is alleged to have told those present at the May meeting to "make sure that you fail efforts of the RDP by making sure that those provincial projects do not succeed."

Despite Christodoulou's claim that the tapes of the meeting do not match allegations made about Krogh, the DBSA has yet to explain why the former Rhodesian banker resigned.

Bank Reiterates Commitment to RDP

MB2207200994 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1938 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Midrand July 22 SAPA—The Development Bank of Southern Africa [DBSA] on Friday [22 July] reiterated its commitment to the new government and in particular its Reconstruction and Development Programme [RDP].

DBSA Chief Executive Andre la Grange and chairman of the board of directors Prof Wiseman Nkuhlu met members of staff on Friday to discuss recent allegations the bank was undermining the RDP.

A non-executive member of the board of directors, Dr Desmond Krogh, was alleged to have tried to sabotage the bank's involvement in the RDP during an audit committee meeting in May. He subsequently said he was unavailable to serve on the board for an extended six-month term.

Prof Nkuhlu told a press conference on Friday he had listened to a tape recording of the May 24 meeting and Dr Krogh had not made the remarks attributed to him.

However, Mr la Grange said there had been a series of disagreements with Dr Krogh about "his conservative and critical approach over a period of time" to the RDP and other issues.

Mr la Grange said leadership of the RDP had to come from the central and provincial governments, in particular from Minister Without Portfolio Jay Naidoo.

He said there had not been any controversy about the bank's strategy in the past two years, nor its ability to

support the RDP. "The bank and management could be accused of many things, management in particular, but our intentions to support development and to move the RDP forward in a constructive way should be very clear."

He added documents in which the bank had clearly committed itself to this process included the last two annual reports, the business plan of the bank and the De Looer report.

The bank had been one of the few institutions to invest in development programmes in the past two years. In the first quarter of this year it had invested R250 million [rands] in development projects, and was hoping to invest a total of R1 billion by the end of the year.

However, loans had not been approved since the end of March as the bank was waiting for its mandate to be reviewed.

At Friday's staff meeting a government plan to restructure the bank was discussed. The plan is expected to be made public within two or three months after consultations with staff, stock-holders, debtors and the authorities.

Slovo on Implementation of Housing Program

MB2407205394 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1830 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Interview with Housing Minister Joe Slovo by announcer Suzette Pocock in the Johannesburg studio—recorded; introduction by announcer John Bishop]

[Excerpt] We had hoped to have the national housing minister, Joe Slovo, live in the studio with us this evening, but he had to be away on other business. However, he gave an interview to Suzette Pocock yesterday, and first, he outlined what he wanted to achieve under his subsidy scheme.

[Slovo] From the basic thrusts of the subsidy scheme is to help the poorest of the poor, and we know that even the 12.5 thousand maximum subsidy is not always sufficient to provide a real acceptable habitation. But they are fiscal restraints, and what we're trying to do now, and what we are discussing is to try to use the subsidy scheme to be able to provide people with a starter home so that there can be incremental improvements with the participation of the people themselves.

[Pocock] Parallels have been drawn between the IDT's [Independent Development Trust] capital subsidy scheme and the present scheme proposed by yourself, the subsidy scheme. There are severe shortcomings in that subsidy scheme in that it doesn't allow for moneys for maintenance, and it also doesn't actually help or assist in building up the community structure. How do you intend addressing that problem?

[Slovo] We are aware of these limitations, and we certainly are going to go for the provision as the projects

get off the ground, for facilities, for the very things that you are talking about. We have set up a number of joint technical committees for the National Housing Forum, and we hope that within the next 10 days to two weeks we are going to get reports from those joint technical committees, prepare a draft of our general strategy in relation to the subsidy scheme, and the other elements of our housing strategy for discussion, and this will come up in the housing summit that we hope to have in the fourth quarter of this year in order to get general acceptance by all stake holders: the government, the communities, the private sector on the way forward.

[Pocock] How far is the technical committee incorporating private initiatives or initiatives like the PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] housing plan together into a national housing policy?

[Slovo] I did have a meeting with the premier of PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging], Tokyo Sexwale, and his housing MEC [member of the executive council], and we did agree in the first place that the current projects which have been placed before the housing boards will go ahead, but that in the meanwhile, through joint consultation, the appointment of a joint technical team with the PWV, we are going to see whether there is a way of marrying the two kinds of concepts which are contained in the PWV scheme and in the current strategy of the government.

[Pocock] Despite denials all round, I hear persistent rumors that Premier Sexwale and yourself have your daggers drawn on this particular issue.

[Slovo] It's absolutely not true. Tokyo and I are very close together, both politically and personally. I think the kind of debate which has been sparked off by the PWV announcement is an extremely healthy one, it is completely open and transparent, and I have absolutely no doubt in my mind that we are going to reach some common understanding on the way forward. I think the big problem that faces this country is that something like 50 percent of our people do not earn sufficient income to be able to attract mortgage credit, and it is that segment which is the main component the housing ministry wishes to address. And in relation to that segment we are going to proceed on the basis which still has to be elaborated and worked out, but its essential component is going to be to try to give the people a start with something that would eventually become a home. I'm talking about giving people who are earning from 800 rands to zero something to get them out of the mire in which they live at the moment.

[Pocock] Throughout the dynamics between national and regional government, who had the final say on housing and on housing schemes?

[Slovo] Both the national and the provinces have concurrent jurisdiction in housing, and the national housing budget is generally under the direction of the National Housing Ministry. But our style in policy has been and

will continue to be that we are not going to take any major steps in any directions without effective consultation with the provincial levels. We have instituted a framework for consultation. We've already had two meetings of the ministry together with all the national housing ministers. We are going to do this on a monthly basis, and every major step we take is going to be taken after consultation with the provinces, and in particular with the housing ministers in those provinces. [passage omitted]

Calls For Loans for Low-Income Groups

*MB2307181994 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1445
GMT 23 Jul 94*

[Text] Johannesburg July 23 SAPA—Housing Minister Joe Slovo on Saturday warned leading banking institutions that unless their reluctance to grant home loans to lower income groups changed, legislation may be introduced to twist their arm.

Mr Slovo was addressing the opening ceremony of the first Community Bank outlet, which had been established to serve low-income earners with home loans in Benoni, east of Johannesburg.

A copy of his speech was faxed to SAPA.

The minister said he was concerned with the continuing reluctance of the major banks to grant housing loans to "ordinary people in ordinary jobs, with ordinary incomes".

"But should...this reluctance on their part become a permanent feature, then we are going to have to look for other ways to encourage banks to open their doors to the lower end of the market—if necessary through legislation.

"Ultimately it will be up to the major banks and lending institutions to come into the new South Africa and (help) solve what is one of the most fundamental problems facing this country—housing."

Mr Slovo also called for an end to rent and bond boycotts. "If we are saying to the banks that they must make themselves more accessible to the smaller borrowers and to ordinary people, then we have to be prepared to enter a social compact, which says that people will meet their bond repayments," said the minister.

NP Criticizes Remarks on Loans

*MB2507141794 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1246
GMT 25 Jul 94*

[Text] Johannesburg July 25 SAPA—Comments by Housing Minister Joe Slovo that banks might be compelled to finance low-cost housing showed the African National Congress had not shed its socialist principles, the National Party [NP] said in a statement on Monday. Mr Slovo warned leading banking institutions at the

weekend that unless their reluctance to grant home loans to lower income groups changed, legislation might be introduced to twist their arms.

NP member of the PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] legislature Mr Daryl Swanepoel said for government to dictate to financial institutions was tantamount to seizing control of that sector of the economy. Saying the move was diametrically opposed to the interim Constitution, Mr Swanepoel added it would trigger alarm signals and frighten off further investment as well as lead to capital flight.

Land Affairs Minister on Redistribution Program

*MB2307143894 Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 20
Jul 94 p 4*

[Report on interview with Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom by correspondent Ben Pretorius on 19 July; place not given]

[Text] As soon as unnecessary government aid can no longer be provided to farmers, farms that have slipped out of farmers' hands through bad management could serve a need among the country's land-hungry masses, Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom said yesterday.

He said in an interview that before when farmers were deep in debt they had been assisted by the Land Bank. That was no longer the case.

"Then there are also the state subsidies which commercial farmers receive, and which some farmers did not even need. The last time was when farmers received a 2.5 billion-rand drought aid. We are not going to force farmers out of their farms. Market conditions will do it. There will be enough land, but the big problem will be to assist the less privileged people so that they will be able to also benefit from the land. Some rural people's situation is so desperate that they take the law into their own hands and occupy land."

Minister Hanekom referred to the Eastern Transvaal farm workers who were to protest today and tomorrow over complaints ranging from confiscation of stock to eviction by farmers.

Some of the farm workers have allegedly been threatened by farmers that they would be thrown off farms should they participate in any protest action. "It is not in the farmers' interests to evict farm workers from their farms because very soon many of these people's rights will be entrenched in the constitution. If there is large-scale eviction of laborers from farms, we will act very drastically to stop the move.

"Some of the laborers have been living on these farms for decades and their rights will be protected. These people are tenant laborers and their biggest problem is that their homes are linked to their work," Mr. Hanekom said. "If the laborer loses his work, he also loses his home."

He expressed his sympathy with striking Eastern Transvaal laborers and said there were legitimate reasons for their action. "However, it is difficult to do something drastic in only three months regarding land rights which, due to apartheid, have been implemented in a negative fashion. We are really busy looking at problems as we are intent on instituting as soon as possible constructive land reform policies."

He mentioned a few ways in which land can be obtained for land-hungry people. "State land can be used, although it is not always immediately available. We will also have to look at the role of the Land Bank as only established commercial farmers are in a position to receive funds to buy land. The redistribution of land will and must work," he said.

"We do not want to do what was done in Zimbabwe. Commercial agricultural land is being taken away out of desperation since there had never been a project which worked. The cooperation between commercial farmers and small farmers was also never achieved."

Trade Surplus Increases to 1.5 Billion Rands

MB2207175894 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 22 Jul 94 p 1

[Article by Samantha Sharpe]

[Text] The trade surplus rebounded sharply in June, allaying fears that a collapse in SA's [South Africa] trade performance would begin tightening the squeeze on foreign exchange reserves.

The trade balance widened to R1.5bn [rands] after plummeting nearly two-thirds to R623m in May, latest Customs and Excise figures showed.

Economists said the return to a healthier surplus was a relief as it acted as a buffer against the drain on gold and foreign exchange reserves. June's figure suggested May had been a freak month—an "aberration best ignored". However, they warned that SA was not yet out of the woods. While the figure was an improvement on May's unusually low surplus, it would have to rise further to take the current account surplus to acceptable levels. The upward pressure on interest rates had not yet abated.

The current account—the trade balance less net service payments—has come under increasing pressure from large service payments in the first quarter. It fell to about R200m from R1.2bn in the final quarter of last year.

Econometrix economist Tony Twine said the first half trade surplus of about R8bn would almost exactly match the service payment deficit in the year to June, wiping the current account surplus to zero. This assumed service payments in the second quarter matched those in the first.

"This would explain why the Reserve Bank was unable to do anything about the external value of the rand. With a current account of zero and haemorrhaging from the

capital account, it would be impossible for the Bank to support a run on the currency," he said.

The trade figures showed exports accelerating 20.86 percent to R8.11bn, while imports rose about 9 percent to R6.6bn. This was a turn-around from the previous month, when the increase in imports outflanked the rise in exports. The higher export bill was led by accelerating diamond sales and an upturn in the sale of manufactured goods abroad.

Better commodity prices and increased offshore demand for manufactured goods would bolster exports further, economists said. The higher oil price was the major culprit behind the import bill.

The cumulative surplus for the first half was R8.5bn, R1.7bn lower than last year.

Mbeki, Nzo Hold News Conference on Return From UK

MB2307113394 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0902 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Report by Micel Schnehage]

[Text] Johannesburg July 23 SAPA—First Deputy President Thabo Mbeki says the United Kingdom is "keen" to see South Africa succeed in its new democracy and has pledged its support to ensure the success of the government's Reconstruction and Development Programme. Speaking shortly after his arrival from a state visit to London to mark South Africa's readmittance to the Commonwealth, Mr Mbeki said on Saturday morning: "There's a great keenness among various sectors of British society to see us succeed to reinforce the democratic process here, and to help us attend to the questions the government is raising with regard to reconstruction and development."

Alluding to the current wave of industrial action, which intensified with major strikes in South Africa this week, Mr Mbeki allayed fears it would impact negatively on foreign investors' decisions to risk their money in this country. He told a news conference at Jan Smuts Airport that despite news reports of strike action filtering through to the British press, at no time did he detect "a sense of hesitation".

Businessmen and "senior people from major institutions" had in fact stated their "keenness" to invest in South Africa and had raised several "ideas" to contribute in this regard. Discussions were also held on British aid to "help us address poverty ...and human resource development", Mr Mbeki said.

The British Government would also assist South Africa in its formation of a national defence force and ensure the smooth running of the parliamentary system in this country.

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Mr Mbeki said a visit to South Africa by British prime minister, John Major, was in the offing, but he did not indicate when that would be.

Addressing the same news conference, Foreign Affairs Minister Alfred Nzo said his deputy minister Aziz Pahad would return to the UK in the near future to discuss in detail "the forms of aid" needed in South Africa.

The UK is one of south africa's largest economic trading partners in terms of investment and almost 60 per cent of trade with europe moves through London, according to Mr Mbeki.

On a lighter note the deputy president said he had detected a feeling of "happiness" among all sectors of British society for South Africa's transformation to a democracy and its readmittance to the Commonwealth.

Citizen Force Call-Ups Expected Soon

*MB2507155994 Johannesburg Radio South Africa
Network in English 1400 GMT 25 Jul 94*

[Text] An announcement on continued call-ups for white members of the citizen force is expected soon. The deputy minister of defense, Mr. Ronnie Kasrils, told the Johannesburg Press Club that the fact that the citizen force units were still dependent on citizens force personnel presented a problem, particularly in the light of a large citizen force exercise which is to take place in September. Thousands of people have been called up for this exercise. National service was abolished from this year. Mr. Kasrils also confirmed that a secretary for defense would be appointed within the next two weeks. This followed speculation in the newspapers that Lieutenant General Pierre Steyn would be appointed to the post.

Winnie Mandela, ANC Deny Employing Mercenary

*MB2507154894 Johannesburg Radio South Africa
Network in English 1400 GMT 25 Jul 94*

[Text] Reports that a British political assassin was employed by Mrs. Winnie Mandela and the ANC security department have been strongly denied by the deputy minister. However, REUTERS reports that the police maintain that the man had contacts with Mrs. Mandela until early this year.

Earlier the London SUNDAY TIMES reported that self-proclaimed assassin and mercenary John Banks had advised Mrs. Mandela on security matters. Mrs. Mandela's office said Mr. Banks was never in her employ, but Colonel Dave Bruce told REUTERS that the police were aware of links between Mrs. Mandela and Mr. Banks last year and early this year, but that it now appeared that Banks no longer worked for her.

Mrs. Mandela's office said that all employees at the security division were blacks who had served in Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation—ANC Military Wing].

Commissioner Says KZP Involved in Hit Squad Activities

*MB2507153994 Johannesburg Radio South Africa
Network in English 1400 GMT 25 Jul 94*

[Text] KwaZulu/Natal Police [KZP] commissioner, Lieutenant General Roy During, says that he is convinced that so-called hit-squad activities in the force are planned by senior policemen and that well-known politicians could be involved. In a farewell address on the eve of his retirement, General During called for a thorough investigation into hit squads in the KwaZulu Police and said the arrest of a junior policeman was merely the tip of the iceberg.

AWB Members Linked to Bombings Allegedly in Namibia

*MB2507115194 Johannesburg Radio South Africa
Network in English 0500 GMT 25 Jul 94*

[Text] The South African Police Service says the AWB [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] members linked to a series of bomb explosions on the Witwatersrand could be hiding in Namibia. A police spokesman, Colonel Dave Bruce, said in Johannesburg that four of the suspects could be in Namibia, and that Interpol had been contacted to help in the investigation. He said that one of the men was definitely known to be in Windhoek. A spate of bombings before the election in April killed 21 people and wounded nearly 200.

Some Suspects Reportedly Back in RSA

*MB2507154794 Johannesburg Radio South Africa
Network in English 1400 GMT 25 Jul 94*

[Text] The police suspect that the four AWB [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] members believed to have been involved in a series of pre-election bomb blasts could have returned to South Africa. The men—Etienne le Roux, Johannes Vlok, Johan du Plessis, and Ronald Treurnicht—were last seen in June on a farm in Gobabis in Namibia. Twenty-one people were killed and 200 were injured in bomb blasts during the run-up to the election.

Former Ciskei President Lennox Sebe Dies

MB2307151494 Johannesburg SABA in English 1438 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Text] King William's Town July 23 SABA—Former Ciskei President Lennox Sebe collapsed and died on Saturday during a funeral service at Qoboqobo, in the Eastern Cape. Chief Sebe was delivering a eulogy at the funeral of Mrs S Kwinane when he suddenly complained of dizziness. He received first aid on the scene, but died before an ambulance could arrive. Chief Sebe was toppled from power in a 1990 coup by Brig Oupa Gqozo of the former Ciskei homeland. He is survived by his wife and two children.

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South African Press Review for 24 Jul

MB2407111094

[Editorial Report]

WEEKEND STAR

Atomic Mysteries—"We accept that our present series of articles about the mysterious deaths of people who seem to have been connected to the armaments and chemical industries might give the impression of having posed more questions than provided answers. But that is the way of investigative journalism," notes an editorial in Johannesburg WEEKEND STAR in English on 23-24 July on page 8. "Of more importance to us than trying to prove Mosad's involvement" in "a series of deaths" is "getting to the bottom of a series of mysteries that could have widespread and sinister ramifications for this and other countries." "What we know for certain is that several people who died under mysterious circumstances were all linked through the military, armaments or chemical industries." "The mysteries all seem to revolve around a substance called red mercury." While "attempts are being made to spread the notion that red mercury does not exist, even that it is a hoax," "it appears to be used in a new type of nuclear triggering device that enables the manufacture of an entirely new type of highly efficient miniaturised warhead." "South Africa seems to have been deeply involved in developing this technology for some time." "Another dimension is the clandestine trade, on a very large scale, in nuclear materials. Here too there is every indication that South Africa played and continues to play a pivotal role, and it again stretches credibility too far to suggest it was possible without the collusion of government." "We will publish every detail that can be reasonably verified."

WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN

State of the Unions—Strikes and lockouts are not necessarily symptoms of economic malaise—they are integral to a free society," notes an editorial in Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL & GUARDIAN in English on 22 to 28 July on page 26. "The real stakes in the 'new South Africa': that if independent centres of power, such as unions, are weakened, they will cease to be effective counter-balances to the central state." "This does not imply support for mindless activism: the unions have a responsibility to the broader community" and "militancy must be constructively channelled." "The state for its part should steer well clear of individual labour disputes. By, for example, encouraging centralised bargaining, its role must be to create a framework for industrial co-operation and to foster a strong and responsible union movement."

SUNDAY TIMES

No Discrimination in Foreign Policy—While previous governments "cemented ties to Europe, to America and to the Antipodes," President Mandela's foreign policy is

being "reshaped" to Africa, notes an editorial in Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English on 24 July on page 16. "The change was surely inevitable." "Since the elections, the northern hemisphere states have been doing the wooing," but "the realpolitik" is visible as what "they really want—and in this the Americans are no different—is access for their products to our markets." "The African states are making transparent attempts to wrap South Africa into their purposes by proposing joint agreements," but "Mr Mandela has been cautious, and rightly so, about wading into the African swamp." "South Africa cannot be the 'policeman of the region.'" "It is in South Africa's interests to stabilise the sub-continent, if only to stop the vast and destabilising flows of refugees across our borders, but that does not require military adventures or costly (and usually futile) 'peace-keeping' operations." "That calls for patient diplomacy. It does not require armed excursions, nor does it require South Africa to emulate the Americans in the futile exercise of throwing money at unstable societies. Caution has served Me Mandela well, and caution should be his watchword."

South African Press Review for 25 Jul

MB2507134194

[Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Labor Unrest, Fiscal Crash Threaten Economic Prosperity—"The euphoric post-election economic scenario is beginning to exhibit hairline cracks," declares a page 10 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 25 July. Predictions of a real economic growth rate of 3.5 percent this year followed by 5 percent in 1995 "are being hastily revised in the wake of fears of a fiscal crash and gathering labour unrest." "A key to South Africa's future prosperity lies in supplementing the meagre resources we have with foreign investment that will remain here indefinitely. Which is why escalating strike action could not have come at a worse time." Global investment capital has been "holding back" from committing itself to this country pending the emergence of post-election stability. "An unstable labour force is anathema to investment, with the result that those who have not yet dipped their toes in South African investment waters are starting to adopt an 'I told you so' stance." THE STAR advises government to demonstrate "statistically and by its actions—that its spending plans are realistic." In turn, labor must "show that it is responsible and fully appreciates the wider ramifications of intransigence."

BUSINESS DAY

Business, Labor, Government Cooperation Needed—Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 25 July in a page 14 editorial says the temptation to call on government to intervene to settle the countrywide wave of strikes "should be strenuously resisted." Strikes might

"scare away potential foreign investors; they restrain the growth needed if the economy is to create and sustain more jobs; and they lead to business closures." But, "it seems almost inevitable that South Africa's political transition will be accompanied by dissent and muscle flexing. It must be if we are to develop a truly democratic society." BUSINESS DAY believes business, labor, and government, "the three corners of the golden triangle," will "each be flexing its muscle." However, "they can surely work together for the benefit of all, but will only continue to do so while tangible benefits are created." "The golden triangle can operate, if it co-operates. If any of its three components, particularly government, is seen to be favouring either of the other two, the consensus we need will falter."

CAPE TIMES

Mandela Declines To Take Sides in Industrial Disputes—President Mandela is "clearly sympathetic to the lot of lower-paid workers and yet he has wisely declined to take sides in the acrimonious industrial dispute between a supermarket chain and its striking employees," notes a page 8 editorial in Cape Town CAPE TIMES in English on 21 July. Mandela has expressed disapproval of the use of violence in such disputes "whether on the part of the workers or anybody else," but he "has not taken sides on the merits of the dispute, and rightly so." Nevertheless, CAPE TIMES hopes Mandela "will not be unmindful that a spate of industrial settlements favouring workers with substantial increases could be disastrous for the economy, unleashing an inflationary spiral."

Angola**Slow Progress Continues at Lusaka Peace Talks****Delegations Agree on 2 More Points***MB2207204594 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 22 Jul 94*

[Report by correspondent Manuel da Conceicao in Lusaka]

[Text] The negotiating teams today continued discussing the document on the implementation of national reconciliation measures. Yesterday the parties approved six out of the 11 points contained in the mediators' intermediary document, and today they approved another two. Three points remain to be approved, and they are the most difficult since they pertain to the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola's [UNITA] participation in government, UNITA's demilitarization, the swearing in of its deputies in Parliament, the extension of state administration throughout Angolan territory, and a special status to be attributed to Jonas Savimbi.

UNITA's negotiating team is scheduled to leave Lusaka on 23 July for Huambo, where they will attend a meeting of the UNITA political commission. The mediators and observers will not go to Huambo. The talks will be interrupted until 27 July. The government negotiating team will probably take this opportunity to leave for Luanda.

Major Differences Reviewed*MB2307062794 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 23 Jul 94*

[Text] Reports from the Zambian capital Lusaka say that the chances of peace in Angola are remote, even though UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] and Angolan Government negotiators have continued with talks. The talks follow an upsurge in fighting and major differences over national reconciliation. A source said UNITA and government negotiators, now in their second week of discussing an 11-point plan of national reconciliation, differed on how and when the rebel movement should participate in a post-war government of national unity. UNITA is demanding that the disarming and demobilization of its troops should be simultaneous with its participation in government.

Another major disagreement is over who will take up the government posts offered to UNITA.

Delegations Leave for Luanda, Huambo*MB2307202394 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 23 Jul 94*

[Text] The government delegation to the Angolan peace talks in Lusaka, Zambia, arrived in Luanda this evening. The delegation from the National Union for the Total

Independence of Angola [UNITA] also left Lusaka for Huambo. Both delegations are expected to return to Lusaka on 27 or 28 July. Our correspondent Alves Antonio has further details:

Alioune Blondin Beye, special representative of the UN secretary general in Angola and mediator in the Angolan peace process, took the opportunity to meet with the negotiating teams from the government and UNITA, before their departure. According to sources close to the mediation, it is believed the meetings were aimed at coordinating views with regard to the fundamental issues in the implementation of modalities for national reconciliation—that is, issues dealing with UNITA's participation in the country's government and the extension of the central state administration [words indistinct] a careful consideration. The government and UNITA have already made significant steps forward by overcoming eight obstacles.

Meanwhile, some officials from the Zambian Government and the ruling Movement for Multiparty Democracy have commented on the negotiations between the government and UNITA, saying that the signing of an eventual agreement is increasingly imminent.

Savimbi Accepts Proposal on Huambo Administrator*MB2507153294 Johannesburg Channel Africa Radio in English 1500 GMT 25 Jul 94*

[Text] Diplomats in Lusaka say that Angolan UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] leader Jonas Savimbi has accepted the proposal that Huambo, which is UNITA's stronghold, should be governed by a neutral administrator.

The proposal says that the neutral administrator should be assisted by two deputies, one nominated by UNITA and the other by the Angolan Government.

The sources say the proposal was one of several options that were put recently to Dr. Savimbi by a Zambian delegation that was led by former Zambian Foreign Affairs Minister Vernon Mwaanga.

There has been no indication as to who would appoint the neutral administrator to govern Huambo. The administration of Huambo is said to be one of the thorny issues in the current peace negotiations between UNITA and the Angolan Government.

Minister: Savimbi Visit to S. Africa 'Doubtful'*MB2407154594 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 24 Jul 94*

[Text] On his arrival from Maputo yesterday Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura said the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] leader's eventual departure for South Africa within the framework of Nelson Mandela's efforts to mediate the Angolan conflict is doubtful.

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[Begin recording] [Moura] Following the talks held at the margin of the second presidential forum, everything leads one to believe that Mr. Savimbi may not go to South Africa.

[Unidentified reporter] Why?

[Moura] I do not know. You can ask him. He wrote confirming his presence [words indistinct] for a meeting with His Excellence, President Mandela, [words indistinct] doubts about the trip [words indistinct] we will know about this later on, but only UNITA can explain. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Minister Venancio de Moura reacted to reports doing the rounds that regional initiatives by some African leaders would hinder the Lusaka talks.

[Begin Moura recording] We only have one mediator, and all the efforts underway are aimed at reinforcing, not weakening the mediator. So, we believe that recent initiatives should not be seen as (?more measures) for the solution of Angola's internal problem. [end recording]

Opposition Party Reports Intimidation Attempt

MB2307074194 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] The Front for Democracy [FPD] says the bomb that detonated yesterday on the first floor of house No. 16 on Prostito Avenue in Quinaxixe was aimed at its leader Nelson Pestana Bonavena. It alerts the public that this action is not an isolated incident, but part of a project to intimidate the democratic civilian opposition. In a communique issued today, the party demands a serious and rigorous investigation to dissipate any doubts. The Luanda Provincial Police Command, in a meeting with the press this morning, confirmed the detonation of an explosive device on one of the floors of the building in (Dunduma) road. Deputy Police Commissioner Ferreira Neto made it clear there is no proof the device was aimed at FPD leader Nelson Pestana Bonavena. Five people were wounded following the bomb blast.

[Begin recording] [Neto] Mr. Nelson Eduardo Pestana lives in one of the houses hit by the bomb. He is a jurist, a member of the political party FPD, and a deputy of the National Assembly. So, investigations are continuing by the competent organs of this provincial command and in due time we will know what may have been the motive of the crime and the real consequences of the detonation of the same explosive device.

[Unidentified correspondent] Has anyone been killed?

[Neto] No, no one was killed, but some people have been seriously injured. [end recording]

World Bank Agrees to \$250 Million Interest-Free Loan

MB2307064894 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Excerpt] The World Bank has reiterated its support for the Angolan Government's social and economic program. An interest-free \$250 million has already been made available. That money is to be returned over a 40-year period. Other follow-up and technical assessment measures are also provided. Shortly before leaving Luanda this afternoon, Francisco Aguirre-Sacassa, World Bank director for central and southern Africa, as well as the Indian Ocean Region, held a news conference, at which he described his visit to Angola as positive and gave his vote of confidence to the government's ongoing program.

That World Bank official defended the government's need to implement a number of social programs aimed at curbing the impact of economic measures, notably among the poorer sections of the population. [passage omitted]

UNITA Forces Capture South African Mercenaries

MB2207165194 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 1600 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Angolan UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] rebels claim they have shot down an aircraft flown by South African mercenaries and are threatening to execute the crew. UNITA said in a statement that the Pilatus aircraft had been shot down over the eastern Lunda Province. The rebels have named one of the captives as Mr. (D. Skeerkoggel). A South African foreign affairs spokesman was unable to confirm the incident.

Company Confirms Employees Held

MB2307121694 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1100 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Text] The South African company, Executive Outcomes, which is involved with training in the Angolan Army has confirmed that two of its employees have been taken prisoner by UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola]. The company said it was believed that one of the men had been killed.

Executive Outcomes said the men had been captured on the 15th of this month shortly before the Angolan Government had recaptured the strategic town of Cafunfu in north-eastern Angola. UNITA said earlier that it had captured four South Africans in a Pilatus PC-7 Aircraft allegedly carrying government mercenaries, which crashed in the Lunda Norte Province.

South Africa's Mbeki Comments

MB2307112894 Johannesburg SABA in English 0932 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Report by Micel Schnehage]

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[Text] Johannesburg July 23 SAPA—The Department of Foreign Affairs has been in contact with UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] rebels in an attempt to stop the execution of four South African mercenaries after their plane was apparently shot down in Angola's northern Lunda Norte Province on Friday [22 July]. This was confirmed by First Deputy President Thabo Mbeki on Saturday morning on his return from London, where he attended a ceremony to mark South Africa's readmittance to the Commonwealth.

Mr Mbeki told reporters at Jan Smuts Airport "we would like to stop this execution in the context of the intervention the President (Nelson Mandela) was requested to make in the Angolan issue".

Preliminary discussions between UNITA and South African Government officials and the rebel movement took place earlier this week. UNITA spokesman Jorge Valentim was quoted as saying in Pretoria that President Nelson Mandela would have an extremely important role to play in the resolution of conflicts in the southern African region.

Mr Mbeki said the government would want to discuss the problem of South African mercenaries in Angola in the context of those negotiations. He estimated 500 mercenaries were currently operating in that country. "It is an important part of those negotiations because they come from South Africa.

"I think we would not want to deal with it in a piecemeal fashion to stop those executions now, and as quickly as possible to discuss the total matter...those people ought to be here, they ought not to be fighting a war in Angola", Mr Mbeki charged.

Foreign affairs said on Friday night it had no information about the capture, but was trying to confirm the reports.

UNITA's Valentim Condemns MPLA's Use of Mercenaries

MB2307072394 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Text] All kinds of mercenaries are involved in the Angolan war and they all fight on the side of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party [MPLA-PT] forces. Dr. Jorge Alicerces Valentim, National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] information secretary, has called on the international community to adopt a stand concerning the involvement of South African mercenaries in this country. Speaking in Lusaka yesterday, he added that the presence of such forces in this country seriously endangers the Lusaka peace talks.

[Begin Valentim recording] Yes, there is major involvement by South African mercenaries in the Angolan war. They are (?destabilizing) the situation in Angola, to the

extent that they even endanger the Lusaka peace talks. Their involvement can only be condemned and we expect the international community to take some stand on this matter. (?This is unacceptable). In talks in December, we came up with a clause whereby mercenaries were supposed to leave Angola. [end recording]

The UNITA information secretary also disclosed that the MPLA-PT government is importing dangerous military equipment under cover of the international community's silence. He criticized the behavior of the Portuguese and Russian Governments, adding that such behavior is not compatible with their status as observers.

Meanwhile, UNITA has asked the United States to intercede with Portugal and Russia, the other two countries in the troika of observers, to stop supplying weapons to the MPLA-PT regime. UNITA believes that the (?involvement) of Russia, a country which has a seat in the UN Security Council, and Portugal, Angola's former colonial power, is evidence of an international plot (?against UNITA). Both countries were also involved in the Bicesse Accord and are accused of violating the Triple Zero Clause, whereby other countries are forbidden to supply weapons to the Angolan warring factions.

Such violations continue today. In line with what was defended by the Russian prime minister earlier this month, Russia has persuaded Luanda to sign military cooperation accords.

MPLA Official Denies Army Using Foreign Soldiers

MB2307060794 London BBC World Service in Portuguese 2030 GMT 22 Jul 94

[From the "London Last Minute" program]

[Text] War is intensifying in Angola. The town of Caimbambo has been the scene of clashes between National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] and government forces over the last two days. UNITA captured Caimbambo when the war resumed in 1992, but the government forces retook the town last year. Caimbambo is strategically important because it lies midway between Benguela and the UNITA headquarters at Huambo. Military sources [words indistinct] have also reported that Kuito and N'dalatando have been shelled. In a communique issued last night, UNITA said it had downed an aircraft piloted by South African mercenaries. It also reported that one of the captured crew members was called [name indistinct], gave his identity card number, and his Durban University student card number. Joao Lourenco, Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] information secretary, has visited the BBC news desk. We asked Mr. Lourenco why is the government buying increasingly sophisticated military equipment at a time when peace talks are under way.

[Begin recording] [Lourenco] All states have great responsibilities. Even those countries which are not at war continue to acquire weaponry and to revamp their armies. Those are countries which are highly unlikely to enter into any type of war, whether it be internal, civil, of a war that may pit them against other states. In view of that, one should not view the fact that the Angolan Government buys military equipment as reflecting a warmongering stance. Quite the contrary.

[Unidentified correspondent] Do you believe that Angola is nearer to peace now that agreement has been reached concerning 95 percent of all points on the agenda of the peace talks?

[Lourenco] If we were to reason in percentage terms alone, the logical thing would be to think that we were indeed much closer to peace now than we were before. Unfortunately, though, in any accord there is always interference by more than one side. All does not depend on the government alone. Whether an agreement is signed in Lusaka will hinge principally on the wishes of UNITA. The proposal advanced by the mediating team was accepted by the Angolan Government some time ago. We are still waiting for UNITA to reply affirmatively to the mediator's proposal.

[Correspondent] UNITA issued a communique yesterday saying it had shot down an aircraft piloted by two South African mercenaries. It gave names and identity card numbers. Do you have any information concerning that matter?

[Lourenco] I have no such information, but it would not be a very intelligent thing for the Angolan Government to contract foreign pilots to pilot a very plain PC-7 aircraft. We have Angolan pilots who served in the Air Force during the 16-year war and they used to pilot far more sophisticated aircraft. We have Angolan staff able to pilot any aircraft of the Angolan Air Force.

[Correspondent] However, does the Angolan Government have foreign soldiers in its ranks such as instructors or infantry soldiers on the war front?

[Lourenco] We have no foreign soldiers in our ranks. Only Angolan soldiers are fighting in Angola. The last foreign soldiers in Angola left well before the Bicesse Accord was signed. I am talking about the Cuban soldiers. Since then, the Angolan Government has not resorted to mercenaries to fight the Angolan war. We believe that the Angolan war must be fought among Angolans and the contribution of the sons of Angola is enough for the Angolan Armed Forces. [end recording]

Government Admits To Buying Russian Weapons

LD2407211494 Lisbon RDP Antena 1 Radio Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Excerpt] The war with UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] has made the Angolan Government buy weapons in the international market.

The seller was none less than Russia, a member of the troika of observers. Our reporter Walter Medeiros talked to the spokesman for the Angolan presidency, Aldomiro da Conceicao, a few moments ago.

[Begin recording] [Conceicao] The Angolan Government has been resorting to the international weapons market to acquire the necessary means to defend itself in this war against UNITA. This is legal and legitimate, especially after the United Nations approved the election results and lifted the arms embargo against the Angolan Government.

[Medeiros] Do you not feel this is a little awkward when Russia is a member of the troika of observers of the peace process? Could this not discredit Russia's impartiality in the process?

[Conceicao] No, Russia no longer has the privileged position it had in the past, when the Soviet Union existed. At the moment Russia has a totally different position and we have resorted to the international weapons market where Russian arms are available. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Zambian Accused of Smuggling Arms to UNITA

MB2207140694 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1340 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Lusaka July 22 SAPA—The Angolan peace talks in Lusaka are reported to be under threat by accusations by the United Nations Security Council that Zambia and Zaire secretly supplied weapons to UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola], SABC [South African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reported on Friday.

The Zambian WEEKLY POST reported that the UN Security Council had accused the two countries of collaborating with UNITA. The accusation follows Zambian President Frederick Chiluba's visit to Angola to mediate in the conflict.

Meanwhile, former Zambian Minister of Foreign Affairs Vernon Mwaanga said UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi had visited the country with peace proposals.

Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko was also scheduled to hold talks on Friday in Maputo with South African President Nelson Mandela on peace in Angola.

UNITA Attacks Civilian Convoy in Caimbambo

MB2307063194 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 0600 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Text] Though peace talks are under way in Lusaka, the war continues on Angolan territory. Armed National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA, men have attacked a convoy of civilian vehicles ferrying food to the people of Caimbambo District, Benguela Province. The attack occurred at Catenga, 86 km from

the city of Benguela. Celestino Mota, our correspondent in Benguela Province, reports:

[Begin Mota recording] A (?military) source said that, though clashes continue, there are strong possibilities that the situation will become favorable for the Angolan Armed Forces, FAA. Nothing specific has been learned about the number of civilians wounded or killed. UNITA attacked Caibambo when the FAA forces were protecting the road to allow a 15-truck convoy to arrive intact, with its food aid. It should be noted that the convoy only went as far as Catengo, some 86 km from Benguela. Then it had to turn back. [end recording]

FAA Retakes Caibambo District

MB2407202794 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Text] The Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] retook the Caibambo District, Benguela Province, yesterday, following the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola's [UNITA] occupation of the district on 21 July. The strong pressure exercised by the FAA forced UNITA to withdraw in disarray. A military source today told our correspondent in Benguela that this was UNITA's adventure in trying to occupy Caibambo District at a time when FAA are highly equipped. The number of civilians killed or wounded by the UNITA rebels has not yet been reported. UNITA tried to occupy the district capital of Caibambo, 106 km from Benguela, when the FAA moved to protect the Catengue-Caibambo road at a time when a convoy carried foodstuffs, medicines, and clothing for residents of that area.

Diamond-Rich Area Reportedly in UNITA Hands

MB2307130094 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 1200 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Text] Lunda Norte Province's diamond-rich Canfunfo District remains in the hands of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA. The media in the pay of the communist Luanda regime had reported that Canfunfo had been taken by the armed forces led by Eduardo dos Santos. Those reports are, however, the kind of exercise in imagination that the Luanda regime has become well known for.

The truth is that the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party, MPLA-PT, wants to take that diamond-rich district at all costs. To that end, the MPLA-PT is receiving massive support from South African mercenaries, who have been dealt some serious reverses.

The Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel correspondent in the area reports that, after the [words indistinct] the mercenaries who were piloting the PC-7 aircraft shot down on 20 July, yesterday the brave Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola, FALA, successfully drove back a team of mercenaries nearing

the FALA defense line [words indistinct] (?25 combat vehicles) were completely burned. More than (?two dozen) mercenaries died in vain [words indistinct] their companions fled in the direction of Cuango forest, where they will acquire first hand knowledge about famine and thirst.

It is worth noting that more than 100 mercenaries have been killed since the beginning of the adventure [words indistinct].

UNITA Shells N'dalatando; 11 Reported Killed

MB2507124894 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 25 Jul 94

[Text] Unhappy about their defeat in Cuanza Norte Province, where the Angolan Armed Forces, FAA, recaptured the city of N'dalatando in May, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] forces have resumed their military operations in a bid to recover the positions they have lost. In N'dalatando this morning, silence was suddenly shattered by UNITA cannons and mortars. In only a short while, UNITA shelled the city with some 200 cannon and mortar rounds. Jose Augusto, our correspondent in the area, reports:

[Begin Augusto recording] The city of N'dalatando was shelled yet again by UNITA forces this morning. The UNITA forces used long range 65 mm cannons to shell (Oji Ayenda), Sambissanga, and Valodia Wards, as well as the road where N'dalatando Central Hospital is situated. A total of 11 people were killed and (?12) others were wounded. [end recording]

Mozambique

Renamo Leader Dhlakama Meets With Mandela

MB2207140994 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1316 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Report by Patrick Bulger]

[Text] Maputo July 22 SAPA—President Nelson Mandela on Friday [22 July] said he was impressed by Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] leader Afonso Dhlakama's commitment to peace.

Mr Mandela was speaking after a brief meeting with the Renamo leader in Maputo. Mr Mandela said efforts had been made in the past for him to meet Mr Dhlakama, but the time factor had made this impossible.

He said he was impressed by "the extent to which he (Mr Dhlakama) has stressed the question of peace and the question of addressing problems together with President Joachim Chissano. "Some of the problems he has outlined are problems which have been outlined by President Chissano. These are problems of communication

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and the number of landmines that are littered throughout the country and which make campaigning very difficult."

Mr Mandela said Mr Dhlakama had adopted a conciliatory tone and a desire to reach a settlement with President Chissano. The meeting between the two leaders took place against a background of opposition by Mozambique's ruling Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] party which feared that Mr Dhlakama would derive political gain from being seen in public with Mr Mandela.

Mr Dhlakama, whose Renamo is Frelimo's main opposition in elections due in late October, said Mr Mandela was an important figure in southern Africa. He said his intervention in Mozambique's peace process was to be welcomed.

Mutinies Continue in Maputo, Sofala Provinces

Soldiers Block Traffic

MB2307115594 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Text] Road traffic among Maputo, Swaziland, and South Africa resumed yesterday afternoon. It had stopped during the morning because of action by people and soldiers.

Traffic resumed after the UN Operations in Mozambique, Unomoz, and the Cease-Fire Commission Branch for Boane District intervened. People in the area of Matola-Rio, in Maputo Province, put up barricades along the road between Maputo and Boane to protest minibus tariff increases. Boane-based soldiers also blocked the road to demand their salaries. They also wanted their situation defined, whether they will be demobilized or whether they will join the new army.

Mutiny in Sofala Camp Detailed

MB2307183194 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Report by correspondent Barnaby Philips from Maputo on the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The army mutinies in both the Mozambican former Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] rebel movement and the ruling Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] government are becoming all too familiar these days. The soldiers from both sides have spent some six months in uncomfortable United Nations assembly points. Most simply want to be demobilized or go back home, and until that happens, it seems they are bent on causing more trouble. From Maputo Barnaby Philips reports:

Another day in Mozambique and another wave of mutinies. This time it is the Frelimo army that has been hit. Just outside the central port of Beira, at the Nyangau assembly area, trouble started yesterday. Shooting

started in the camp and several UN personnel and vehicles were seized. As of midday today most were still being held hostage. The UN's central area force commander, General (Matsoroli), told me by telephone that he had been amongst those held in the camp yesterday, but had been released when he promised to put to the Frelimo high command the mutiny's demand for rapid demobilization. I asked him where he expected trouble next. Who knows, he replied wearily, we are just living from day to day.

Meanwhile, the roads leading from Maputo to the South African and Swaziland borders were blocked yesterday after Frelimo soldiers rioted at the Boane and Moamba assembly areas. In Boane, no traffic was allowed to pass through barricades of burning tires. In Moamba, soldiers sacked shops, beat up the drivers of a Spanish aid organization, and caused UN observers to flee the assembly area. It seems these mutinies have taken on an unstoppable momentum.

Soldiers are adopting copycat tactics. They have heard how their colleagues elsewhere have been able to secure immediate demobilization by seizing hostages, or another favorite tactic, blocking a major road for a day or two. No UN personnel has been seriously hurt so far, the Frelimo and Renamo commanders are regularly beaten up. Innocent civilians have been killed, raped, and seen their property looted. Like the soldiers, they would like to see the demobilization process end as quickly as possible.

Soldiers Stage Protest in Beira

LD2407201194 Lisbon RTP Internacional Television in Portuguese 1800 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Report by Isabel Magalhaes]

[Text] In Mozambique, soldiers seeking demobilization continue to rebel. The mutinies have reached the city of Beira. Groups of soldiers set vehicles on fire and took hostages today to demand immediate demobilization.

[Magalhaes] There has been a mutiny of some sort nearly every day in the past few months. Today, the mutiny reached Beira. As with all cantonments, the soldiers want to know when and how they will be demobilized. Today they set vehicles on fire and held 100 people hostage. Only after a few hours did things calm down.

Since the beginning of the peace process the government and the Mozambique National Resistance have demobilized more than 30,000 men. About half of them are still in provisional camps. They have not received a salary for several months and they have not been told when they might return to civilian life. A number of soldiers been living in the camps for more than six months and are complaining about the poor conditions.

Apparently no one believes government promises that demobilization would be concluded by mid-August. Meanwhile, the mutinies continue to spread.

Minister on Measures To End Mutinies

MB2307182394 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Text] Armando Guebuza, minister of transport and communications and head of the government delegation to the Supervision and Control Commission, says in Beira that measures are being taken to end mutinies in assembly areas. He said delegations are leaving Maputo for the provinces to explain to the confined soldiers what is going on and what future they can expect and on this basis make their choice. Armando Guebuza said it will be up to the soldiers to choose if they want to be demobilized or to be integrated into the new army.

Unomoz: 25,856 Government Soldiers Demobilized

MB2507150694 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1400 GMT 25 Jul 94

[Text] The UN Operations in Mozambique says that 72 government soldiers were demobilized yesterday, raising to 25,856 the number of government troops already demobilized. Renamo did not demobilize any soldiers yesterday, but confined five guerrillas of Afonso Dhlakama to assembly areas.

Foreign Interference in Government Discussed

MB2407165094 Maputo SAVANA in Portuguese 15 Jul 94 p 9

[Editorial: "Sovereignty and Nervous Breakdowns"]

[Text] Over the past week commentators who gravitate around the regime went through a real nervous crisis.

They spoke of conspiracies, interferences, and offenses to our sovereignty. In brief, the nation is in danger and it is necessary to close ranks to defend the fatherland under threat. After all, that is a scenario that is line with the front's [Mozambique Liberation Front] electoral strategy as stated by the ruling party's cadres conference recently held in Maputo.

Yet, it would be naive to suggest that what is going on is nothing but government machinations, that there are no pressures, schemes being devised behind the scene, and political agendas that clash with the current government's program.

It is, however, necessary to put the current situation in proper perspective, otherwise we risk facing what will be like protests of a notorious prostitute wishing to be treated like a virgin.

Gone are the days when the liberation movement was regarded as a mandatory point of reference in view of its independence and sovereignty designs, while it kept at bay the appetites of Moscow and Beijing to dominate.

The first stains emerged in the aftermath of independence and in the context of South Africa as the enemy:

support for Vietnam's invasion of Kampuchea, and the continual voting at the United Nations, endorsing the Soviet Union's presence in Afghanistan. The head of the international news editor in the government's daily rolled for having merely mentioned that the Mozambican vote on the Afghan issue was a most solitary one.

Then came the dark Reagan years. Everything was made to keep Renamo [Mozambique National Resistance] out of the group of "freedom fighters" that the cowboy [preceding word in English] president had chosen: UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola], the "contras," and the Afghan "mohajedin."

The bowing down and veneration toward Washington were then pretty obvious. The Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of Information used to obediently receive messages from the U.S. diplomatic mission, and regularly pulled the ears of journalists not so enthusiastic about the adventures in Grenada, Panama, and Nicaragua. There was a "mea culpa" regarding the expulsion, a few years earlier, of diplomats linked to the CIA, comfortably suggesting that there had been a Cuban "complot."

John DeVos, the ambassador, publicly stated his aversion to socialism, while speaking in favor of private initiative. Along came vans and plows with the joint-hands insignia on them.

Then came the IMF-imposed PRE [Economic Recovery Program], though Mozambicans were told that it was a legitimate son, stemming from the intellectual draftings at the National Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance. To suggest that there was a similarity between PRE and the IMF's structural adjustment program was real heresy and unpatriotic (sic).

Belts were tightened in the name of a paradise that was late to arrive, despite the added promises in the form of transcendental meditation.

The party and its government gradually destroyed assets like popular trust and the sovereignty pride prevailing after independence and could not see that diplomacy was not an end in itself. Diplomacy is the means to secure national interests—security, economy, and defense. Diplomacy as a trapeze exercise or a hula hoop game ends up being a circus.

Meanwhile, Nkomati did not eliminate Renamo and the army proved unable to halt the advance of Afonso Dhlakama. There were renewed suggestions of political accommodation. The government offered a Western-inspired constitution and traveled to Washington with a plan to restructure the armed forces, but it was never implemented.

The drought ravaged the country. The creation of Mozambican nongovernmental organizations was made difficult, though over 100 foreign organizations operated in the country, absorbing Mozambicans who were usually compensated in a discriminatory fashion.

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In a generous move, the government offered a multiparty system, against all the expectations that had been raised up to the last minute by the progovernment press which suggested that Mozambicans believed in a single party system.

In parliament xenophobic tendencies sought to redraft the Law on Nationality, though their representatives did not refrain from engaging in not so legal deals with the most sordid sectors of South African society.

Melissa Wells, who replaced DeVos, trimmed the hedges of the draft constitution bill—namely, the areas dealing with individual rights and freedoms—and established contacts with Renamo while it was still referred to as “armed bandits.”

The peace accord was finally signed in Rome. There was no amnesty for the “armed bandits.” Instead there was political accommodation.

The limitations to our sovereignty, which the government feared, came about, and now we have the UN Operations in Mozambique [Unomoz] in our midst.

The Rome accord disregarded parliament and expedited deals in housing, land, factories, and four-wheel drive vehicles involving our elites.

The government gave the impression that it had begun operating clandestinely.

Conflicts among the military led to a greater role being played by Unomoz and Western countries, while the government gives its consent.

While “political marketing” [preceding words in English] is the order of the day at the ruling party’s headquarters, the government gives Unomoz a trump card in the form of an 18-month compensation plan for demobilized troops.

The government argued about soldiers’ diet, but ended up asking the United Nations for food. The government sought to make an issue out of sovereignty, but asked for money to renovate army barracks, while it powerlessly watched troops being sworn in at Fascist-style ceremonies, after undergoing training by nostalgic elements eager to return to Africa.

Discussions at the Reintegration Commission over compensation to be given to demobilized troops and Renamo’s maimed personnel dragged on for no reason. The government offered Unomoz on a silver tray the laurels for having found a solution to the protests made by the 16,000 soldiers. Ajello dealt with the demobilized soldiers, becoming a hero. For the soldiers, the government is still the “culprit.” Unlike the Angolan process, initial UN and international community sympathies were for the government. Relations with Renamo were marked by mistrust and paternalism.

Gradually, as if in a masochist frenzy, the delegations and agencies representing the government have been

contributing to the erosion of its image and credibility which had unfortunately long been weakened. The discrepancies in figures and in memoranda were merely one of the last not so complimentary episodes.

As we watch those and other examples of both the past and the present, we see sensitive concepts like sovereignty and interference being raised.

Right now, sovereignty, after sleeping with the demons of interference for a long time, cannot shout in an innocent voice that it has been raped. It risks being seen as a hypocrite or on the verge of a nervous breakdown.

Opposition Says Foreigners Registered To Vote

MB2307141294 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Excerpts] The electoral census process is continuing in the country. Reports from Cabo Delgado Province say a Democratic Congress Party [Pacode] official has alleged foreign nationals are being registered as voters.

(Vitor Chimbilika), Pacode information and propaganda secretary, is in Pemba as part of a working visit to Cabo Delgado Province. He said his party will meet on 25 and 26 August to prepare for the legislative elections scheduled to be held in October of this year. Asked to comment on the electoral census, he said [words indistinct] the registration of foreign nationals as voters. [passage omitted]

(Vitor Chimbilika) also told Radio Mozambique that Pacode will not be competing in the presidential elections. Instead, it will support one of the opposition candidates. He added that bilateral negotiations are under way for that purpose.

He also disclosed that his party is on a drive to build structures throughout Mozambican territory, adding that Pacode features highly in certain provinces, after the Mozambique Liberation Front and Mozambique National Resistance. [passage omitted]

Mario Carlos Machel Announces Candidacy

MB2307202894 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1730 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Text] Another independent candidate to the presidential elections presented himself to the press in Maputo this afternoon. He is Mario Carlos Machel, a consultant and commerce teacher. Mario Carlos Machel worked previously as a secondary school teacher and, according to him, he actively took part in the creation of the first activist groups in Maputo. He completed a course in international relations in Tanzania in 1981 and then he worked as a senior UN technician. Mario Carlos Machel is a nephew of the late President Samora Machel.

Zambia**Chiluba Denies Supplying Arms, Oil to UNITA**

MB2407183994 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1800 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Text] President Chiluba has refuted reports that Zambia was supplying arms and oil to UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] in violation of the United Nations sanctions now in force against the rebel movement. Mr. Chiluba, who was addressing the nation on radio and television this evening on the integrity and the security of the nation, said Zambia's only interest was to ensure that Angola attained peace

with itself and its neighbors. The president said he was compelled to address the nation to correct the malicious distortions of facts on Zambia's alleged violation of UN sanctions against UNITA as published by the POST newspaper issue and the WASHINGTON LINE, a United States Information Service publication. Mr. Chiluba said that the WASHINGTON LINE deliberately misinformed the public by mentioning Zambia as one of the countries providing embargoed items to UNITA. Mr. Chiluba said also that the Security Council was informed about the measures that Zambia had taken to curb any possible violations of the UN sanctions following the request.

The Gambia

Soldiers Stage Successful Coup, Form Ruling Council

First Reports of Coup

AB2207173494 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 22 Jul 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] There has apparently been big trouble in The Gambia with reports of soldiers mutinying and on the rampage in the capital Banjul. Here's Elizabeth Ohene:

[Begin Ohene recording] All international telephone lines to The Gambia have been cut so information has been hard to come by but sources in nearby Senegal have confirmed that trouble started in the capital, Banjul, early in the morning when troops moved into the streets. They looted shops and stopped cars, sending people running in a panic. The rioting soldiers then took over some police stations and seized the Aboku power station. The international airport has been closed but it's not clear under whose control it is. There are some reports that forces loyal to the government have been trying to contain the mutineers.

The soldiers involved in the disturbances are understood to belong to detachments that have served in Liberia with the West African peacekeeping force, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] and the cause of their displeasure is said to be unpaid wages.

There has so far been no word about what steps President Jawara's government is taking to restore order but in London a few minutes ago, the secretary general of the Commonwealth, Chief Emeka Anyaoku, issued a statement expressing grave concern over the course of events. He said he is worried that the movements of the president and his cabinet have been restricted and he was hoping a way could soon be found to restore peace. [end recording]

Military Arrests Officials

LD2307135294 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Gambian President Jawara has been toppled and soldiers have mutinied. No one knew yesterday evening if it was just the anger of poorly paid soldiers or a real coup. Nicolas Balique, you are with us live from Senegal, a neighboring country of The Gambia. Is it really a coup?

[Balique] Yes, we have confirmation of this coup. A communique was repeated several times this morning on the national radio, which remained silent yesterday. According to well-informed sources, President Dawda Jawara, who is on the run at the moment, was forced to

take refuge aboard a ship belonging to the U.S. Navy, which was on a technical stopover in Banjul.

The putschists said that several ministers and dignitaries of the former regime were arrested. A provisional military committee has been set up. Four officers, all lieutenants, head the committee: Yaya Jammeh, Sabally, Haidara, and Signateh.

While Radio Gambia is broadcasting military music, they have asked the population to conduct their activities normally and stressed the fact that the coup took place without bloodshed yesterday. [passage omitted]

[Announcer] Let us add, anyhow, that the Senegalese armed forces were put on alert for safety reasons. Senegalese troops were sent to the border with The Gambia but they have no intention of intervening.

Further on Coup Attempt

AB2307131994 Paris AFP in English 1236 GMT 23 Jul 94

[Text] Banjul, July 23 (AFP)—The Gambian military ousted President Sir Alaji Dawda Kairaba Jawara on Saturday [23 July] in a bloodless coup, slapping a curfew on the tiny West African state and suspending the constitution and political parties.

The move was immediately condemned in London by the Commonwealth organisation of former British colonies, which branded the coup a tragedy.

"This country has been taken over by the Gambian Armed Forces," the self-styled Patriotic Armed Forces of the Provisional Ruling Council said in a statement broadcast on the private Radio One station.

"The previous political regime has been completely toppled and the former head of state Sir Alaji Dawda Kairaba Jawara has fled the nation," the coup leaders' statement said.

"Some former government ministers have been captured and are in safe hands," they said, adding that members of the government should surrender to their nearest police station.

Radio Gambia, which fell silent Friday, resumed broadcasting Saturday and said "the ruling council consists of Lieutenant Yaya Jammeh, Lieutenant F.D. Sabally, Lieutenant Sadibu Haidara, and Lieutenant I. Signateh."

The military ordered the closing of all ground and air borders and imposed a 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. curfew.

Any attempt to put down their movement would be crushed, the military warned.

In London, the Commonwealth strongly condemned the apparent takeover, saying if confirmed, it would be "a tragedy for The Gambia, which has a credible record in the field of human rights."

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Informed sources said the takeover began Friday when troops rebelled in support of demands for back pay owed after peacekeeping duties in Liberia.

The Gambia, which has a mainly-Moslem population of just over one million and an army of just 800 men, has been a multi-party democracy since 1951.

The military council called on the public to "maintain civil order" and said "so far there has been no killing, no looting and no vandalism."

The coup was directed at no foreign country, its said in its statement.

Unconfirmed reports said Jawara—Gambian head of state since independence from Britain in 1965—had fled Friday with his family and several government ministers to a US naval vessel anchored off Banjul.

The ship was to have taken part in manoeuvres with the Gambian Navy.

In Dakar, informed sources said the Senegalese Armed Forces had been on alert since late Friday following the takeover. Senegalese troops had been sent to the border but ruled out any intervention in the tiny state, the sources said.

An earlier coup, staged in 1981 by a group of police led by Koukoy Samba Sanyang, was crushed by Senegalese troops called in by the government. More than 500 people died in failed putsch.

The government subsequently created an 800-strong army led by a Nigerian colonel under a 1992 agreement between the two countries.

When the coup began Friday, troops took over Yundum International Airport and a telecommunications centre in the suburbs of the capital, cutting off communication with the outside world.

Telephone lines remained down Saturday and the airport and borders remained closed.

President Interviewed From U.S. Ship

*AB2307183094 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 23 Jul 94*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] This afternoon, President Jawara himself called us up from the USS La Moure County naval frigate, docked in Banjul Harbor. On the ship-to-shore telephone, he wanted to broadcast a message to the nation. Here's part of what he wanted to say:

[Begin Jawara recording] During this trying time, my mind and all my efforts are directed at safeguarding vital national interest, and I call on the officers and men of the Army to lay down their arms and work for an early

solution to the situation, to enable normalcy to be fully restored to our dear country. God bless The Gambia. [end recording]

Later, Jeremy Skid asked President Jawara if he knew what exactly was behind the Army takeover:

[Begin recording] [Jawara] Well, from what we can monitor from their broadcasts, they complain about salary—I believe levels of salary—because all public servants in The Gambia receive their salaries regularly. But in the case of the Army as such, they have had sizable increases twice in recent years, which put their salaries above the average Gambian at the same level. So, it can be a complaint about non-payment of salaries or late payment of salaries. It could only be a complaint about dissatisfaction—maybe still about their levels of salaries and conditions of service. Other grievances, I think, they voiced, they are against corruption, bad food, their conditions of service and bad food at the barracks, and so on. Well, these are....[pauses] As the president and commander in chief I am open to discuss these grievances with them, and I made this known to them and arrangements are being made for me to talk to them at 1700 GMT today.

[Skid] Is this a political takeover of The Gambia?

[Jawara] Well, things have not developed to that stage yet, but it looks like a coup. But I must say, since they asked to enter into dialogue, one could not say that everything is finalized now.

[Skid] Have any reports reached you of violence in Banjul?

[Jawara] No, I have not heard of any serious violence.

[Skid] Do you think the whole Army was against you, or just certain junior officers who'd been in Liberia?

[Jawara] Well, (?it's certainly) not the whole Army. There are certain elements who took it upon themselves to lead this insurgency, and in such circumstances, some officers are forced to join them. That was certainly not all the Army, and certainly not all the tactical support group. In fact, the main body of the tactical support group remained loyal, and even though they are much very lightly armed, they took up positions to prevent this thing happening.

[Skid] Who is going to help you? Who is going to come to your aid to get you back into State House?

[Jawara] Well, I cannot tell now, but we have lots of friends, and any of our friends and neighbors could do that, I don't know, I mean everything is a state of (?flux).

[Skid] You are on an American warship in Banjul Harbor. Do you think the Americans will help you?

[Jawara] Well, I hope so.

[Skid] Are you depressed?

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[Jawara] No, I am not depressed. I am not depressed at all, because, I mean, I was elected as president democratically, several times, in free and fair elections. I was doing a job in the interest of my country, and I would like to continue to do that, because I still think it is in the interest of my country. But if anything should happen to put that to an end, I would not be depressed, and I am not depressed. [end recording]

Banjul Reported Calm; Airport Closed

AB2407124594 Paris AFP in English 1125 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Excerpts] Banjul, July 24 (AFP)—The Gambia remained virtually cut off from the outside world Sunday [24 July] following an overnight curfew imposed after the military ousted long-time leader Sir Dawda Jawara in a bloodless coup.

But the tiny West African state appeared calm as life inside the country began to return slowly to normal. Transport officials in Senegal, which surrounds The Gambia on all sides, said Banjul airport was still closed, as were the country's land borders.

The official radio was again off the air, after returning briefly on Saturday to broadcast a statement by the officers who seized power.

But witnesses reached by phone from Dakar said life was slowly returning to normal and that street markets, closed since Friday, had reopened. Telephone communications, interrupted since Friday, also resumed Sunday.

Jawara, 70, was Sunday still aboard the US warship *Lamoure County*, where he fled on Friday while the ship was on a courtesy call to Banjul. The US State Department said Washington had stepped in as a would-be mediator between the president and coup leaders. Jawara had been permitted to use the US vessel's communications equipment to contact military leaders in a bid to return the country to democracy.

Washington was trying to facilitate dialogue between the two sides, said State Department spokeswoman Sondra McCarty.

Late Saturday the Gambian armed forces said they wished to maintain good relations with their neighbours, particularly Senegal, Guinea-Bissau and Guinea, but also with the region's three other English-speaking countries, Ghana, Nigeria and Sierra Leone. [passage omitted]

According to a statement by the Gambian military, the coup was carried off with "no killing, no looting and no vandalism."

By around midday Sunday, the coup leaders, who called themselves the Patriotic Armed Forces of the Provisional Ruling Council, had yet to publicly announce a programme of government.

They have suspended the constitution and political parties in the country, which has been a multi-party democracy since 1951. They accused Jawara of corruption.

The Commonwealth, which groups former British colonies, has called the takeover a tragedy.

Ruling Council Names Leadership

EA2407153494 Nairobi KNA in English 1320 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Text] Dakar, 24 Jul (PANA)—Gambian junior military officers who seized power in a bloodless coup Friday [22 July] have named Lieutenant Yaya Jammeh as the new head of state of the tiny West African state, reports PANA.

The announcement came late yesterday in a broadcast over state radio by the Armed Forces ruling council. The four-man council, all of them Army lieutenants, is headed by Jammeh. Other members are S.B. Sabally, Sadibu Haidara, and I. Signatch.

An unidentified male voice said that the Constitution had been suspended and all political parties banned. He said that elections would be organized. He said that all permanent secretaries, the most senior officers after ministers, would run the ministries until further notice. The announcer said that the government would abide by all international agreements signed by the ousted government and that it would maintain cordial relations with neighbouring Senegal, Guinea-Bissau, and Nigeria. He said that the ousted government of Sir Dawda Jawara had been corrupt and had refused to establish an independent electoral commission, claiming that the last elections were rigged.

Meanwhile, international telecommunications services were re-established early today. Residents in Banjul and the greater Banjul area said the streets were calm Friday, yesterday and today morning. They said that soldiers were well behaved but searched vehicles Friday.

They said there was no looting, as reported by some international media, and that the soldiers have not molested civilians.

Apart from a two-hour break in water supplies in Banjul Friday, public utilities have been functioning normally. A number of small neighbourhood shops opened throughout yesterday. However, the airport and border remain closed.

Jawara Leaves Banjul Port Aboard Ship

AB2407165994 Paris AFP in English 1646 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Text] Banjul, July 24 (AFP)—The US warship where the president of The Gambia took refuge following his ouster in a bloodless coup left Banjul port Sunday [24 July], and the president was still believed to be aboard, sources said.

It was not immediately clear where the vessel was headed or if members of deposed president Dawda Jawara's family or government were on it.

Jawara, 70, went aboard the USS Lamoure County Friday as The Gambia's 800-man army staged a revolt, apparently to demand back pay from peacekeeping duties in Liberia. The military declared Saturday it had seized power. The US ship left after US ambassador Andrew Winter, who had been aboard conferring with Jawara, disembarked, the sources said.

Jawara had been in contact with the military from the ship, so its departure suggests that talks on allowing him back into the tiny west African country had failed.

The US warship was in Banjul on a courtesy call. Jawara asked to come aboard the ship Friday and was granted permission, the US State Department said in Washington.

A department spokeswoman said Sunday the United States had offered to mediate between Jawara and the military.

Coup Leader on Takeover, Plans

*AB2407190894 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 24 Jul 94*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Calm is gradually returning to The Gambia after yesterday's coup by mutinous soldiers which toppled the government of Sir Dawda Jawara. Angry soldiers on Friday [22 July] took to the streets, protesting over not being paid bonuses for peacekeeping duties in Liberia. President Jawara was at the start of the crisis visiting a U.S. naval vessel on a port call. It is believed he is still taking refuge on board the ship and is trying to make contact with the coup leaders. The leaders comprising four lieutenants have, meanwhile, formed themselves into what they call the Provisional Council of the Armed Forces. They have suspended the Constitution, political parties, and declared a curfew. Though they know where President Jawara is, a lot is not known about the whereabouts of some of his ministers. In Banjul, journalist Rodney Sieh spoke to one of the coup leaders, Lieutenant Yaya Jammeh. He asked Lt. Jammeh whether his council will now be looking out for the ministers.

[Begin recording] [Jammeh] I want to make sure that their conscience will prevail upon their motions to come out for accountability. No minister needs to be feared. [sentence as heard] We are not going to set any military tribunals to try anybody, and those who will be tried will be tried publicly. We are not here to set up secret military tribunals. We are not here to shoot anybody; but what we want here is that the nation's assets that have been plundered must be returned back to the state for the benefit of all Gambians.

[Sieh] So how soon will a new government be named?

[Jammeh] A new government will be named as soon as possible. We are not naming a government now as we need the support of the civilians, intellectuals, patriotic Gambians who are clean, who will make sure that they run their appointment without fear or favor and for the good of every Gambian.

[Sieh] How soon was this peaceful takeover planned? How long?

[Jammeh] Well, it was planned within 24 hours. When we came from the (?airport), we were humiliated publicly because the authorities, politicians, accused us of plotting to overthrow the government, and we were sacked in public. All soldiers were sacked, weapons sacked, and that was the last straw. I, myself, I was disarmed, even though most of the time I am armed, but for that day I was disarmed publicly, for no apparent reason. So we realized that even though we hate to come to power, because we are not elected by the people, we had to make sure that the people have their voice and that is why we decided to come in.

[Sieh] What are the plans for the establishment of democracy, which was one of the main objectives for your taking over?

[Jammeh] Well, as soon as a new government is instituted, which will be composed of mostly civilians, democracy would be in place, and we will welcome all contributions from all corners of this country to make sure that everything is done in the right way, and transparently, and accountability will be the order of the day, and we want the press and the international community to criticize us, including Gambians, to criticize us where we go wrong. We are not here for praises. We are not here to enrich ourselves. We are here to set up a just system that is not corruptible.

[Sieh] Did you encounter any resistance during the takeover?

[Jammeh] Well, we encountered a lot of resistance from the TSG [Tactical Support Group], their commando unit, and the police. We came under fire as we marched from (?Yundum) to the State House; but we never returned any fire, because we don't want to shed any Gambian blood. We are not here to shed innocent blood, and we are not even here to shed anybody's blood. We are not bloodthirsty military officers. [end recording]

One of the leaders of the military take over in The Gambia, Lt. Yaya Jammeh. Well, by all accounts, it was a bloodless coup and, after two days of silence, telephone communications with the outside world have been restored today. On the line to Banjul, Mary Hamper asked Rodney Sieh what the atmosphere in the country is like today.

[Begin recording] [Sieh] Calm has returned to the city. People are going about their normal businesses, but the bakeries are lined with people going from....[pauses] The lines are very long. Long queues of people are standing in

line for bread, because for the past two or three days there has been no bread. We couldn't find bread to eat.

[Hamper] And, how are people reacting to the news of the coup?

[Sieh] The people are not taking it....[pauses] They don't want to react too soon. So everybody is very cautious at the moment. Nobody is running in the street to celebrate, to say that a new government has taken over. Everybody seems to be very cautious.

[Hamper] Was there any violence during the takeover?

[Sieh] Absolutely, there was no violence at all, except for a few cases where I saw two soldiers going to a shop and take two crates of soft drink from a nearby store in (Bakal); but besides that there was really no violence at all.

[Hamper] During the action of the coup, was it quite frightening for you?

[Sieh] Well, I was calm the whole while. I wasn't really frightened because there were few random shootings around the city. People were running helter-skelter for shelter. So there was actually nothing one could do because they can just pounce on your office where you were, like where I work at the OBSERVER, we were there during our normal duty and a soldier came and told us to get out and go home. So we had to leave. We had to lock up and go home.

[Hamper] So has any administration been set up with people named in particular positions?

[Hamper] Yeah, only yesterday morning a voice came on the air and announced the formation of a four-man Provisional Ruling Council [PRC]. The four men named were Lt. Yaya Jammeh, Lt. Haidara, Lt. S.B. Sabally, and Lt. I. Signateh.

[Hamper] Who are these four lieutenants? Are they well known people in the Army?

[Sieh] Well, not so well known. I went to State House yesterday where I talked to Mr. Jammeh himself. He is a young man, about 25, 26 years old. He seems to be, well, intelligent; and I also met Signateh. He is a tall, bright young man. He is very eloquent. He looked very good, very good, very young-looking and he looked ambitious.

[Hamper] What has happened to the people who were serving in Jarawa's government?

[Sieh] Well, I asked him about the state of the vice president, because there were rumors that he had been captured by the PRC. He said that the vice president is safe and sound on an American ship aboard the sea. He said they did not have the vice president but they have two ministers—the information minister, James Gaye, and the justice minister, Hassan Jallow—in their custody. Other ministers, he said, are still at large and they want them to come and report themselves to the council.
[end recording]

New Leader Says Jawara Free To Return

AB2507115094 London BBC World Service in English
0600 GMT 25 Jul 94

[From the "Network Africa" program; monitored in progress]

[Excerpt] ...military council which took power in a bloodless coup on Friday [22 July], made it clear over the weekend that they would fight corruption to restore democracy in The Gambia. This is how most Gambians heard the message from their new rulers on state radio on Saturday:

[Begin Signateh recording] The Armed Forces Provisional Ruling Council has been set up. This ruling council consists of Lieutenant Yaya Jammeh, Lieutenant F.D. Sabally, Lieutenant Sadibu Haidara, and Lieutenant I. Signateh. The council is hereby advising the general public to maintain civil order. So far, there has been no killing, no looting, and no reports of vandalism. The ruling council would also like to assure the general public that it is solely working toward public interest. All social workers are urged to report to their place of duty, particularly the medical personnel, GPTC [Gambia Public Transport Corporation] personnel and MSG [expansion unknown] staff. Meanwhile, the public is free to carry on their normal daily activities while still abiding by the curfew order. Thank you. [end recording]

The voice of Lt. I. Signateh, member of the youthful Ruling Provisional Council of the Patriotic Armed Forces. Leading the council is 29-year-old Yaya Jammeh, who comes from the minority Diola tribe, the same ethnic group which was behind the last coup in 1981. On the line from Banjul last night, Lt. Jammeh told David Sted why his soldiers had mounted the coup:

[Begin recording] [Jammeh] We decided to stage this coup for the simple reason that for 30 years a few individuals have presided over a system of rampant and outrageous corruption, inaccountability, and sense of gross irresponsibility at the detriment of the masses of the Gambian people. The electoral system was corrupt...[pauses] corrupted. There was no independent electoral commission to supervise elections, and the state machinery ensured that by using crooked means, they managed to cling onto power for 30 years using the international community. They gave the impression that democracy and the rule of law is (?being perpetuated) in this country.

[Sted] Who you are actually referring to when you say there is corruption?

[Jammeh] Obviously, I am referring to the PPP [People's Progressive Party] government led by the deposed President Alhaji Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara.

[Sted] Are you referring to the president himself?

[Jammeh] I am referring to the PPP government as an entirety. He presided over...[pauses] he was the head of...[pauses] the president in charge of everybody and whatever happens. He was responsible.

[Sted] But Lieutenant, earlier this weekend you were saying that, in fact, the president would be welcome to come back to the country as long as he recognized the rule of the new council and that he would, in fact, be welcomed as an adviser. Is that still the case?

[Jammeh] At no time did I say that he will not be welcome as an adviser. All I said was that he is welcome. He is free, as a citizen of this country, to come home because we are not out on personal vengeance or whatever. We are here to make sure that all Gambians who believe that they have not done anything wrong can come home as peaceful citizens and independent auditors, whoever they find out to have diverted massive funds or funds of what magnitude will be dealt with according to law, and we have made it clear to ex-President Jawara that he is free to come home. We will assure him security if he needs it—our assistance to make sure that he is protected. He will not be humiliated, he will not be jailed, and we made it clear to him, to himself, and he decided to continue to seek political asylum in Senegal, which was granted by Senegal to him.

[Sted] As you are well aware, the last coup in 1981 failed because of the intervention of Senegalese troops. Isn't it likely that they will once again intervene?

[Jammeh] We are...[pauses] I assure you that we are in constant touch with the sister Republic of Senegal, with President Abdou Diouf. He has given us assurances that he will never intervene in the internal affairs of a country, and we have been having positive discussions through his high commissioner in The Gambia, and in fact they went out to explain: the reasons why they granted a political asylum were based purely on humanitarian grounds and that Senegal will not be used as a launching pad for any aggression toward this country. [sentence as heard]

[Sted] Lieutenant, when are you going to hand back to a civilian administration?

[Jammeh] As soon as we have achieved our objective of a democratic constitution that guarantees all Gambians equal rights, equal opportunities, equal incentives, and accountable and equitable distribution of the national cake. We are not military dictators. We are not here for power. We are just here to correct a system and as soon as we achieve our objective, we will hand over power to whoever the Gambian people chooses.

[Sted] Do you, Lieutenant, believe that you carry the support of the entire Army in what you are doing?

[Jammeh] The mere fact that there has not been a single drop of blood yet, the mere fact that the operation was carried in broad daylight, and that nobody, no civilian or whatever has been killed, it is up to the international community to see whether the entire Army is behind us or not. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Mali

Government Expresses Concern Over Gambian Situation

AB2507092594 Bamako Radiodiffusion-Television du Mali Radio in French 0700 GMT 25 Jul 94

[Communique issued by the government on military coup in The Gambia; place and date not given]

[Text] The Government of the Republic of Mali hereby expresses its greatest concern with the current political situation in The Gambia. A coup d'etat is certainly not a suitable solution to the political, economic, and social problems facing our continent. Recent history demonstrates that nowhere has a military coup brought satisfactory solutions to development and economic problems or fulfilled the expectations in democratic management and the hope of seeing greater social justice.

The Government of Mali hereby makes an urgent appeal to the authors of the coup to find, along with all the active political and social forces of The Gambia, a political solution that will be in line with the demands of democracy and history and that will strengthen the honor of the continent; a solution that will enrich the Gambian democracy and guarantee the conditions for genuine change. The strengthening of democracy in Africa demands an active decentralization and integration policy.

Nigeria

NUPENG Officials Hold Talks With Government

AB2207170494 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 22 Jul 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The Nigerian oil workers' union, NUPENG [National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers], has been meeting the military government of General Sani Abacha in crisis talks about the oil workers' strike that has all but brought the country to its knees in the past three weeks. The strike was called to demand the release of detained opposition leader, Moshood Abiola, and his installation as president under the terms of last year's annulled elections. Well, there have been reports that the NUPENG delegation has now walked out of the talks. On the line to Lagos, Robin White asked NUPENG's deputy president, Folorunsho Oginni, if that was the case.

[Begin recording] [Oginni] We did not walk out: We went there and we had a brief meeting with them, and we told them we still maintain our stand. They went through all our 10-point demands and so we thought probably they will have found solutions to our problem. That was why we attended the meeting.

[White] So you are saying you have definitely not walked out.

[Oginni] As at today....[pauses] As far as today's meeting is concerned, we did not walk out.

[White] But are the talks over?

[Oginni] Sir, we have finished the meeting for today.

[White] So is there going to be another meeting?

[Oginni] Well, they are proposing another meeting for next week.

[White] Will you go to that meeting?

[Oginni] Well, all what we are doing, like we said, we are having our next meeting tomorrow, that is, the National Executive Council meeting. We will now present everything to the house and based on the decision of the majority, we will know the next line of action. It cannot be a one-man decision.

[White] But does the strike for now go on?

[Oginni] Yes, as at now, our strike is on, and we are still maintaining our position.

[White] Has the government moved at all? Have they given in to any of your demands?

[Oginni] Well, it will be out of turn for me now to tell you which areas maybe we have agreed or we have not agreed. But like I said, as at today, the meeting is inconclusive, because as at now, we are still on strike and we are still maintaining our demands.

[White] What was the mood like at the meeting?

[Oginni] Well, normally when you are going for that kind of a meeting, anybody that goes to a meeting [word indistinct] should go with clean heart so we went there with open minds, and we believe that they came too with open minds. In fairness, on their own part, they based all their this thing on appeal, I mean on appeal to NUPENG that we should try to see to the end of the strike, so there was no coercion or any sort of things at the meeting. [sentence as heard] There was no coercion or anybody trying to talk to us in an abusive language or these things.

[White] Were you abusive at all?

[Oginni] [laughing] Please let me keep all those to myself because the meeting venue journalists were barred from entering there, so let me keep that one please. [sentence as heard]

[White] Now, the government has released some people from jail who you were demanding should be let out. Have they not moved a bit toward you?

[Oginni] That is what I said. Like we read in the papers today, some of the political detainees have been released but that has not really satisfied our demands.

[White] You still want Abiola out?

[Oginni] [laughing] You know the baseline.

[White] So, can I just clarify your position? You say you have not walked out of talks and there may be more talks next week?

[Oginni] Well, yes, that is the position.

[White] Meanwhile, the strike goes on?

[Oginni] Yes, it goes on. [end recording]

Union Official on Walkout From Talks

AB2207172394 Paris AFP in English 1704 GMT 22 Jul 94

[By Ade Obesisan]

[Excerpts] Lagos, 22 July (AFP)—Leaders of striking oil workers Friday [22 July] walked out of talks with Nigeria's military government after it failed to release a union boss and jailed opposition leader Moshood Abiola, a senior union official said.

Officials of the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) staged the walk-out after the government failed to produce the union's national secretary Frank Ovie Kokori, who was arrested at his home on 6 July, a senior union official said. The government has denied arresting or detaining Kokori. "Kokori was not brought to the meeting so there was no basis for continuing the discussion," the NUPENG president Wariebi Kojo Agamene told AFP.

The union was also angry at the military's failure to invite NUPENG's sister union, the Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria (PENGAS-SAN), and foreign oil companies to the discussions. The union had set that as a condition for entering into "meaningful dialogue" with the government of General Sani Abacha. Despite the breakdown in the talks NUPENG and government negotiators agreed to meet here again on Monday, Agamene said.

The strikers launched their indefinite strike action 4 July to press for the military to step down and hand over power to Abiola. Since then, the oil strike, crippling Nigeria's major exports earner and paralyzing transport and business activity across the country, has hardened into a near general strike against the military government. [passage omitted]

Agamene said at the four-hour meeting the government delegation had said it was ready to meet all the other conditions set by the oil workers but balked at Abiola's release, the key demand of the oil unions. He said Deputy Oil Minister Alhagumaru Baba had hinted to unions that Abiola's release was not imminent. The government side instead urge oil workers to call off their strike action in order to create an atmosphere "conducive" to Abiola's release. However, NUPENG officials vowed to maintain the strike until Kokori was released.

The union is due to hold an emergency meeting of its national executive on Saturday in Lagos, to discuss the latest moves in the crisis. Abacha met leaders of the

moderate union umbrella group the Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) for talks on Wednesday. The NLC agreed to call off strikes in return for a commitment from the government to consider releasing Abiola.

On Thursday, fuel scarcity kept cars and buses off the streets with queues at filling stations lengthening as government efforts to bring in military drivers apparently flagged, witnesses said. With staff unable or unwilling to get into work, most businesses and government or private offices in Lagos remained shut for their 17th straight day Thursday, business leaders reported.

Talks Postponed to 25 Jul

AB2207191394 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1800 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] Another meeting was held in Lagos today between representatives of the Federal Government and officials of the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers, NUPENG. The government representatives included the minister of state for petroleum resources, Alhaji Umaru Baba, and the director general in the ministry, Alhaji Abdulai Hashim. The national president of NUPENG, Mr. Wariebi Agamene, led the NUPENG delegation.

A Radio Nigeria labor correspondent says the government renewed its appeal to the union to call off its strike. The meeting was adjourned till Monday [25 July] to enable NUPENG executives and government officials to meet separately to resolve issues involved in the crisis.

NUPENG Leader Kokori Appears in Public

AB2307181794 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 23 Jul 94

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] The leader of the striking oil workers union, NUPENG [National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers] of Nigeria, Frank Kokori, has been seen in public today. He disappeared some two weeks ago, soon after his union called a strike demanding the return to democracy. At the time, Frank Kokori's supporters claimed he has been arrested. The government denied any responsibility. Here is Sola Odunfa with the details of Mr. Kokori's reappearance:

[Begin Odunfa recording] The general secretary of Nigeria's Petroleum Workers Union, Mr. Frank Kokori, reappeared in Lagos today, 17 days after he was reported by his union and his family to have been arrested and detained by government security agents. Mr. Kokori walked unannounced into the national headquarters of the Nigerian Labor Congress this morning, accompanied by the radical lawyer, Chief Gani Faweyemi. He spent only a few minutes there, hugging and back-slapping with fellow unionists and with a handful of his union officials. Then he was driven in a motorcade to the NUPENG secretariat for a scheduled meeting of his national executive council on the three weeks old workers strike.

It was only after a recess at the meeting that he spoke to journalists. He said that a team of fully armed security agents in fact came to his residence on the morning of Wednesday, 6 July, to arrest him. He said that the men were very hostile to his children, and that they threatened to break down the door to the flat, which they thought he was occupying in the building. Mr. Kokori said that when he saw how they were behaving he feared that he might be hurt, so he escaped from another part of the building and went into hiding. Mr. Kokori said that he would lead NUPENG into negotiations with the government on Monday [25 July], but that the strike by his workers would continue until the negotiations were successful. [end recording]

Workers Threaten To Continue Strike

AB2407202594 Paris AFP in English 1835 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Text] Lagos, July 24 (AFP)—The Nigerian oil workers' union vowed here Sunday [24 July] to continue "indefinitely" strike action until the government meets its demands, particularly the release of opposition leader Moshood Abiola, an official of the union said.

Key demands of the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) are the installation of Abiola, currently detained in the capital Abuja, as president of Nigeria and the payment of 800 million dollars that the government owes foreign oil companies, partners of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation.

The decision to continue the strike, which started last month, was reached late Sunday at the end of an emergency meeting of the NUPENG National Executive Council, the official told AFP.

Government, CD Reportedly Reject Jackson's Visit

AB2207204094 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1830 GMT 22 Jul 94

[Text] The meeting scheduled to take place in Abuja today between the Nigerian Military Government and the trade unions took a sudden turn. The turn was more than sudden because hardly had the participants sat down than the trade union representatives gave as a precondition the release of their comrade, Frank Ovie Kokori, secretary general of the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers, for the beginning of the negotiations.

The soldiers replied that they did not detain anyone bearing this name and that they did not even know his whereabouts. Thereupon, the union leaders left the meeting. The negotiations have therefore failed. This will increase the street pressure which had already been very strong on the Nigerian Government, with Moshood Abiola's release and swearing in as president of the Republic as the one and only demand. Tunde Kpatinde sent us this report:

[Begin Kpatinde recording] A large Constitutional Conference delegation urged the military junta to release all political detainees without condition.

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Meanwhile, a high-powered official American delegation sent by President Bill Clinton is expected in Abuja. It is led by Reverend Jesse Jackson, an influential member of the Democratic Party. The mission of these American representatives is to meet with General Sani Abacha in order to find a solution to the crisis but the Campaign for Democracy [CD] and Professor Wole Soyinka, the Nobel Prize for literature laureate, are opposed to this visit for what they describe as venal friendship between Jackson and Abacha.

Furthermore, the police has severely condemned the forceful seizure of the Delta State Radio at Warri, the country's second oil city. For about 30 minutes, students took over the radio and addressed the nation. In their message read by [name indistinct], they demanded Abiola to be sworn in immediately as president. They also gave a 72-hour ultimatum to the Delta State delegates to the Constitutional Conference to stop any participation or face reprisals. [end recording]

[Paris AFP in French at 1557 GMT on 22 July, in a Lagos-dated item, reports that "the visit to Nigeria by the special emissary of U.S. President Bill Clinton, the Reverend Jesse Jackson, has been canceled at the request of the military authorities, according to anonymous source at the U.S. Embassy in Lagos. According to a Nigerian source, the U.S. Government informed Lagos only 48 hours before Jesse Jackson's visit. The source denied that the government had rejected the visit and expressed hope that the visit would take place soon. However, a source close to the Nigerian Presidency considered that the visit was cancelled because of Mr. Jackson's stand on Nigeria which is considered 'unfavorable.'"]

ECOWAS Summit Rescheduled To 5-6 Aug in Abuja

AB2507100594 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Text] The 17th summit of the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, scheduled to open in Abuja on Wednesday [27 July] has been postponed. The minister of national planning, Chief Silas Daniyan, told NTA News that the chairman of ECOWAS asked for the postponement after taking into consideration developments in some member countries whose heads of state were expected to attend the meeting. Chief Daniyan said the meeting will now hold between the 5th and 6th of next month.

[Begin Daniyan recording] We have been having some signals that there might be problems for some heads of state—two heads in actual fact—to be able to come because they are having some other events in their own countries, and while we were still on this, the Foreign Ministry is still grappling with this situation, when the incident in The Gambia has come up. [sentence as

heard] So, all these things have now clouded the holding of the summit [word indistinct]. With regard to the date, the meeting of the summit has been shifted from 28, 29 [July] to 5 and 6 August. The chairman of ECOWAS has, after consultation, given that directive. [end recording]

Senegal

Government Says It Will Not Intervene in Gambia

AB2407135594 Paris AFP in English 1340 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Text] Dakar, July 24 (AFP)—Senegal has no intention of interfering in The Gambia where Sir Dawda Jawara has been overthrown as president in a bloodless military coup, the Senegalese ambassador to The Gambia said Sunday [24 July].

Moktar Kebe, interviewed by telephone, said the Senegalese government had "no intention of interfering in The Gambia's internal affairs and will respect the decision made by the Gambian people."

In 1981 Senegalese troops intervened in The Gambia to reinstate Jawara after another military coup in which about 500 people died.

Kebe said he had a meeting Sunday with Lieutenant Yaya Jammeh, president of the provisional military council which made the bid for power Saturday. He said the fact that Senegalese troops had been put on alert was quite normal, given the circumstances.

Kebe added that soldiers had not been sent to the borders with The Gambia—a tiny strip of a country along the River Gambia surrounded on three sides by Senegal and on the fourth by the Atlantic Ocean—but to Kaolack, a border region.

Kebe confirmed that the situation in the capital Banjul was calm and that there had been no pillaging or vandalism.

Ousted Gambian Leader Granted Asylum

AB2407193494 Paris AFP in English 1925 GMT 24 Jul 94

[Text] Dakar, July 24 (AFP)—The government of Senegal on Sunday [24 July] decided to grant political asylum to ousted Gambian president Sir Dawda Jawara and his family "for humanitarian reasons," an official communique announced.

Earlier sources in Banjul said the US warship where Jawara, 70, took refuge following his ouster in a bloodless coup left Banjul port Sunday, and the president was still believed to be aboard.

Jawara went aboard the USS Lamoure County Friday as The Gambia's 800-man army staged a revolt, apparently to demand back pay from peacekeeping duties in Liberia. The military declared Saturday it had seized power.

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